

THE TIMES

Home Guard revived with 4,500 volunteers

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The Government is to create a new Home Guard to protect some of Britain's more vital parts from crack Russian troops in wartime. A pilot scheme will start in four areas of the country next September. Details were disclosed yesterday by Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, who also announced expansion plans for the Territorial Army, including 12 new TA centres, and an adventure training scheme that will be run for young people by the Ministry of Defence.

The new reserve, fore-shadowed last year in *The Times*, will be called the Home Service Force (HSF) and, if the pilot scheme is successful, will include about 4,500 volunteers.

The Army is looking for people aged between 18 and 39 who will probably have to assemble for four or five week-long periods. Because the training periods will be few it is hoped to attract former Servicemen, regulars or reservists, or policemen, who would already know something about "drill and teamwork".

Ideally the Army would like young men in their twenties who might not be able to spare the time for the

A cry in the wilderness



A vociferous young squatter is carried off from Hatzar Adar by an Israeli woman soldier. The pall of smoke in the background comes from a pile of tyres, set on fire by opponents of the Sinai withdrawal.

Exports lead to 150,000 jobs

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

British companies have secured £5,000m of trade in the last 18 months in large contracts alone, creating at least 150,000 jobs.

This emerged yesterday from a largely optimistic report on Britain's export performance from Lord Limerick, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board. More than half the value of the contracts won round the world meant work within the United Kingdom.

'We are only here for the cricket'

From Eric Marsden, Pretoria, March 3

On the dot of eleven at the Northern Transvaal Ground in Berea Park two familiar figures, bats swinging jauntily, crossed the pavilion boundary, and perhaps the rubicon of their cricketing lives.

As Graham Gooch of Essex and Geoffrey Boycott of Yorkshire strode to the wicket to open the innings for the South African Breweries English XI against the national under 25 team, the great rebellion was on. Last-minute telephone appeals from London had been of no avail. Telegrams to individual players were on their way—not, presumably, via the British Embassy, although it is only a brisk walk away from here. So is Union Buildings, seat of the Pretoria Government, where the policies were laid down which have kept South Africa out of international cricket since 1970.

Kissinger's wife accused of assault

Mrs Nancy Kissinger, the wife of Dr Henry Kissinger, faces a charge of physically attacking a woman who allegedly insulted the former United States Secretary of State (Christopher Thomas writes from New York).

A warrant for Mrs Kissinger's arrest was issued on Tuesday when she failed to appear in court at Newark, New Jersey, to answer charges filed by Mrs Ellen Kaplan, of New York.

Court authorities said the incident happened last month when the couple were waiting at Newark for a flight to Boston, where Dr Kissinger had heart surgery.

Royal pictures condemned

The Press Council has condemned *The Sun* and the *Daily Star* for publishing photographs of the Princess of Wales sunbathing on a beach in the Bahamas. The council said the pictures were a "gross intrusion" into the personal privacy of the Princess.

Oil price rise accord urged

Professor Sir Douglas Hague, a senior economics adviser to the Prime Minister, said that the West should try to reach some understanding with OPEC to allow a steady annual increase in the real price of oil. Page 15

Betting levy ruling today

The Home Secretary is expected to rule today on how much bookmakers must pay to the Treasury. Betting Levy Board from April. He is likely to settle on a figure well below the £24.4m sought by the Treasury while increasing this year's £12.6m levy. Page 2

Postal profits

Fiscal profits could show a rise of £300m this year, but Government cash cuts were threatening investment, Mr Ron Dearing, the Post Office chairman, told a Parliamentary Select Committee. Page 15

Villa optimistic

Aston Villa have an excellent chance of reaching the semi-finals of the European Cup after holding Dynamo Kiev 7-1 in the quarter-final first leg. Page 20

Bonn scandal

West Germany is facing its third public scandal in a month with the revelations of Bonn's former spy-master about the activities of BND, the intelligence service. Mr Richard Nixon is alleged to have been one of its targets. Page 8

Kissinger and the oil crisis

The oil price rises in 1973 contributed directly to the energy crisis and caused irrevocable changes throughout the world. The postwar rise in prosperity was brought to a halt, virtually overnight. Henry Kissinger, the former American Secretary of State, recalls in detail what he calls "one of the most pivotal events of the century". Page 12

'Preview' goes to the fair

The Burlington House and Chelsea antiques fairs, which make next week an important one for collectors, are featured in tomorrow's *Preview*, the 16-page weekly guide to entertainment and the arts.

Leader page 15

Letters: The South African crisis, from Mr M. G. Auger, and other, from Dr J. C. Thomas; Mr Thorpe and Anthony from Dr Gordon McGee, and others

Leading articles: Central America: IRA, Obituary, page 14

M. Gabriel Arcout, Mr John Hare

Home	2, 3, 5	Domestic	8
Overseas	5, 9	Parliament	4
Arts	11	Sale	10
Books	10	Science	12
Business	15-19	Sport	20-22
Church	14	TV & Radio	22
Crossword	16	Theatre	23
Bury	12	Weather	24
Law Report	25	Wills	14

Israel drives out Sinai squatters

From Christopher Walker, Yamit, Sinai, March 3

The most testing stage of Israel's withdrawal from Sinai began at dawn today when several hundred troops moved into the illegal settlement of Hatzar Adar to begin the forced evacuation of Jewish militants who have moved in to the region to try to prevent its return to Egypt next month.

Queen opens a show that hopes to run and run

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

The Queen last night opened the £15m Barbican centre for arts and conferences, the largest of its kind in western Europe, amid splendid ceremony and entertainment appropriate to the occasion, mixed with relief that the project, begun in 1971 after 15 years of planning, had finally been completed.

Despite fears that no one would be able to find the centre, tucked away in five and a half acres of Cripplegate, in the centre of the City of London, 3,500 guests arrived to help launch its activities which are intended to fill 18 hours of every day, seven days a week.

Teenagers die as gales sweep Britain

Gales of up to 80 mph which swept Britain yesterday could have caused the deaths of three teenagers.

Corruption rumours linked with Kremlin power struggle

From Michael Binyon, Moscow, March 3

Ironically, the case is now being investigated by the Ministry of Home Affairs, whose deputy head is Mrs Brezhnev's present husband, Lieutenant-General Yuri Churbanov.

The charges against Mr Kolevatov and Mr Tsigan are serious. Soviet citizens are strictly forbidden to deal in precious stones or to hold foreign currency. The Soviet press has recently revealed a scandal at one of Moscow's principal jewellery stores, and asked pointedly how Russians earning an average wage of 175 roubles a month could afford to buy diamonds costing 20,000 roubles.

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The bastions of the City are falling. Last night the Queen opened the Barbican Arts Centre, introducing the public to new and splendid views of the Square Mile, which *The Times* featured earlier this week. (David Hewson writes). Today M Jacques Chirac, the French opposition leader, will stand 140ft above the dark and churning waters of the Thames and see this panorama. It is a sight which has been barred to the public for 71 years, but the privacy of the eyrie, from which Bill Warhurst took this photograph will soon be a thing of the past.

HMS Belfast, on the left, points a battery at the Isle of Dogs. A little farther along, the Post Office Tower peers above its lesser neighbours and across to St Paul's Cathedral. On the right, the NatWest tower dwarfs all. A gathering of tourists contemplate Traitors Gate, with the Tower itself beyond. The vantage point is one of the two iron walkways of Tower Bridge, built on the orders of a Parliament which demanded that the busy Victorian should be able to proceed across the river unimpeded when the bridge is raised for shipping.

But the bridge mechanism worked so quickly and efficiently that as soon as the 1,000-ton bascule leaves started to rise, crowds preferred to watch the spectacle, and shunned the quicker route. In 1911 an ungrateful public was relegated to the footpaths across the bridge and entry to the structure's vast inner workings has been restricted to its employees ever since.

On June 30 all that will change. The bridge has been renovated for £5m, five times its original cost, and the masses will be welcomed back with open

arms (£1.60 at the door please, half price for children and pensioners). The City Corporation expects between 500,000 and 750,000 visitors a year, which would put the bridge behind the Tower itself and Westminster Abbey in the league table of the capital's most popular attractions open to tourists.

A few creature comforts have been installed for the visitor of the 1980s. The walkways have been enclosed in glass, with portholes for photographers, and centrally heated. Modern lifts have been installed. After taking in the views and accompanying

exhibitions, the public will be led to a museum which houses the great steam engines and accumulators which once powered the bridge.

Today the bridge rises and falls by courtesy of the London Electricity Board, its staff has fallen to 15, and dull blue electrical apparatus sits in its belly. Unlike its predecessor, the machinery has been known to break down.

When the public returns to the bridge on June 30, it will be greeted by two China clipper, a Royal Navy minesweeper, a band and other motley festivities.

Crash driver 'sent home mate and ignored signal'

By Nicholas Timmins

The driver of a maintenance train who sent home his assistant driver had exceeded the speed limit and gone through a red light before crashing into the back of a mail train at East Croydon in January, a Department of Transport inquiry into the crash was told yesterday.

Mr Stephen Walton, aged 28, the driver, whose lower left leg had to be amputated seven hours after the crash, is still intensive care six weeks later. His condition is improving and he is expected to give evidence to the inquiry later.

Mr Nicholas Rowles, aged 23, his assistant driver, has been disciplined by British Rail for not being on the train. He was suspended for five days with loss of pay.

He told the inquiry at Fairfield Halls, Croydon, that after they had clocked on Mr Walton told him to go home. "I remember saying something about what happens if the train is cancelled," Mr Rowles said, but the driver had told him that it would be all right. "I think he was just trying to be friendly."

Mr Rowles, who said he had never before simply clocked on and gone home, said he had sat in his car for 10 minutes wondering what

to do then driven home. He was woken at 5am and told about the crash.

Other witnesses said that the maintenance train, the 00.22 from Three Bridges to New Cross Gate, had been travelling fast.

Mr Michael Wenham, aged 60, the guard, who was briefly trapped in his cab at the back of the locomotive when rails and the wagon behind it came through the wall as the train crashed, said the train "while keeping within its 45 mph speed limit, had been travelling 'pretty steady'". It had left Three Bridges late. "I thought we were trying to make up some time."

As it approached East Croydon station, he said, he estimated the speed at about 35mph. The inquiry heard that a 20mph temporary speed limit was in force on the approach to the station.

Mr Kenneth Bradley, aged 35, a signaller at South Croydon, said the train had been travelling "faster than one would have expected" as it passed his signal box.

Mr Richard Budge, aged 39, an operating depot supervisor at Croydon, who passed the maintenance train during its approach to East Croydon station, said the driver of his

locomotive said to him: "That ballast train is moving".

Mr Donald Stewart, aged 47, the East Croydon signaller, said the approach signal before the station was at red because the Brighton to London Bridge mail train had just passed it and had stopped at the station.

His indicators showed the signal to be red, with warning signals further down the line. He would have expected Mr Walton to stop at the red signal and telephone him. Instead, the train continued into the station and smashed into the back of the mail train.

British Rail technical experts told the inquiry that tests had shown there was no fault with the signals and no apparent defects in the locomotive.

Major Anthony King, chairman of the inquiry, said he had now to interview Mr Walton. "What we do not know are the circumstances which may have led driver Walton to lose control of the locomotive or to cause the accident."

A British Rail official said that as far as British Rail was concerned Mr Rowles had "no responsibility whatsoever for the accident".

'Times' interview

Sir William wears all the caps that fit

By Bryan Appleyard

To those who know him almost anything Sir William Rees-Mogg took on would be unsurprising. His reputation as a polymath is well established on the basis of his disconcerting habit of displaying profound knowledge in unexpected areas. Yet it has to be said that his impending chairmanship of the Arts Council, announced last Thursday, has raised a few eyebrows.

With the exception of eighteenth century literature, an interest in the arts is something he has generally left to others to cultivate. Combine that with the fact that Mr Paul Channon, the Arts Minister, was known to have been looking for a businessman to fill the post and, in spite of Sir William's recent experience as a director of GEC, and his unsuitability would appear to be absolute. With typical elegant diffidence he is the first to admit to his shortcomings: "I am less of a businessman than a pure artist might be."

The rationale, however, follows with equally typical conviction: "But I am involved in both areas and would add to that the third leg of what the Arts Council has to do: it has to be able to establish public relations with the sponsoring departments and with the press and the media."

Sir William was speaking seated in a battered, bentwood rocking chair which would be familiar to *Times* men of more than a year's standing. It is now housed in the offices of Pickering & Chatto, the Bloomsbury and antiquarian book dealer of which he is proprietor. Again, disconcertingly, this is not set in an elegant Georgian terrace but in the brutal concrete structure known as the Brunswick Centre.

Along with GEC and the bookshop there is also his role as deputy chairman of the BBC which, together with this new post, will result in him "wearing slightly harder than I did when I was editing a daily newspaper."

Last week a rival publication inferred that this variety of roles was too much for one man, but it had reckoned without the discretion of Sir William's mind which can unite the disparate and envisions the world as a seamless web, an ultimately intelligible system.

Cultural side of the BBC "I am fascinated by the way things interact, for instance through GEC I have tried to get an understanding of what is happening in electronics. That very much fits in with questions of how electronics are going to develop for the future of the BBC. Through the BBC I am very interested in the cultural output. This fits directly into the work I shall be doing at the Arts Council. Of the things that the Arts Council does I regard literature, though not one of the things which is likely at any point to get the biggest funding, as very important."

"So, although I do wear a considerable number of hats actually they do interact in a way which I think does bring knowledge and experience from one to the other. There is room in our system for people that act as links between different bits of the system that help them to relate to each other."

For the Arts Council this neo-Augustan mandarin is unlikely to be the calming experience they may at first expect. At the BBC he has already established himself as a governor with the unique qualification of actually knowing people's names and even what they do.

But for the time being, he is offering few clues as to his intentions. He is discreet about the past work of the Arts Council; but the one area which he does discuss reveals a perception of one of its most significant deficiencies.

"Without making any comments about the past I would hope to establish a very open relationship with the press. Most of my experience of dealing with the press is mostly over crises at *The Times* actually tells me that far more harm is done by people who will not talk frankly than by the mistakes you make if you do talk frankly."

But as for the faintly fantastic mixture of Sir William and the wider left-wing extravaganzas financed by the Arts Council, his position appears to be one of traditional Tory tolerance, though with some regrets.

Compensation reform sought

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

A delegation from the National Farmers' Union, the Country Landowners Association and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors is to meet Mr J A Christopher, the Inland Revenue's chief valuer, on March 15 to press for changes in the compensation procedures when land is compulsorily purchased.

Dr Malcolm Bell, principal secretary in the NFU's parliamentary division, says there are hundreds of cases like that of Mr John Allen-Stevens who, as reported in *The Times* last Monday, has been waiting nearly four years for settlement of his claim after a new bypass was built across his farm.

The NFU and the CLA agree on most of the criticisms. The first and most important is the sheer time it takes to agree a figure with the district valuer who,

according to Dr Bell, usually begins by suggesting a sum which is about half the market value of the land.

Months or years of argument then ensue. Often, it is said, small landowners are forced to settle for sums lower than they might eventually have received because they cannot afford to wait any longer.

There are provisions for arbitration by the Land Tribunal, but many landowners are deterred by the potential expense.

One suggested reform is the establishment of a special small claims court to hear compensation cases. Another is to restrict the power of government departments and local authorities to challenge arbitration awards in the High Court, the Court of Appeal and even the House of Lords.

Another grievance is the

inadequacy of awards to cover the cost of maintaining fences. At present the Department of Transport has responsibility only for fencing off motorways.

Both the department and local authorities, as well as such statutory undertakings as gas and electricity boards, usually disclaim any responsibility for damage caused by contractors. That can involve landowners in expensive litigation against an elusive quarry.

Dr Bell also questions the fairness of the Land Compensation Act, 1961, which states that land acquired by compulsory purchase must be valued as though it were bought from a willing seller. In fact, he points out, sellers are usually very unwilling.

A little more generosity to landowners would not, it is said, hurt the taxpayer unduly.

Nature trails from rubbish tips

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Ecologists believe that rubbish tips may have a more promising future as nature trails than as cornfields or housing estates. "I think we can argue that it can be the cheapest and most convenient solution," Mr David Parker, an officer with the environmental advisory unit at Liverpool University, said yesterday.

Speaking at a conference of the Institution of Municipal Engineers in London, he offered an alluring vision in which butterflies fluttered over the remains of countless cans and toothpaste tubes while warblers nested over

the shredded remains of office memoranda.

"The bramble is a valuable plant for insects, and the flowers can support substantial numbers," Mr Parker said. "The bramble will also attract people to pick blackberries in the autumn."

A rubbish tip or disused gravel pit could be restored to provide a gently-sloping woodland walk interspersed with open glades. The varied landscape would be necessary because trees would not grow on those parts of the tip where explosive methane gas was close to the surface.

Mr Alan Parker, of the waste research unit at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Oxfordshire, told the conference that the gas sometimes caused explosions in buildings on rubbish sites.

Dr Graham Parry, director of the Liverpool unit, explained that slow underground decomposition could produce methane which would kill farm crops on the surface by starving their roots of oxygen. "It is a nice idea to consider the reclamation of landfill sites for agriculture, but it is not without its problems."

Communion by woman defended

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Anglican Bishop of Newark, New Jersey, has rejected criticism by the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, of a Holy Communion service celebrated by a woman priest in St Paul's, Newark, New Jersey.

The Rev John Spang, a bishop of the Episcopal Church of America, told his congregation in Trinity Cathedral, Newark, that Leonard was stretching the concept of the established church to breaking point.

The Church of England has declined to ordain women, and does not allow women ordained elsewhere to officiate as priests in England.

The Rev Elizabeth Canham was licensed to officiate in the United States by Bishop Spang in December. She then came to England and celebrated the eucharist in the church of St Paul's in private. Dr Leonard deplored this, saying that the service was illegal.

The Very Rev Alan Webster, Dean of St Paul's, said the service had taken place with his consent, and he did not accept that it was illegal.

Bishop Spang's statement claims that there were deeper issues behind the event than the Dean's consent to it, including "theological arguments" produced to criticize it. He went on to criticize the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, for supporting Dr Leonard.

The Movement for the Ordination of Women is believed to be planning a private communion service conducted by a woman priest from overseas to be attended by a diocesan bishop.

A private member's motion has been tabled in the General Synod of the Church of England which would lift the ban on women priests from overseas officiating in England.

Lawyers oppose new powers for courts

By Frances Gibb

The Government's new powers for judges and magistrates to suspend part of a prison sentence, to relieve prison overcrowding, are being opposed by the Law Society, the solicitors' professional body.

The powers, which the Government intends to introduce on March 23, will be debated by MPs examining the Criminal Justice Bill in committee today. The Law Society has written to all members of the committee setting out its opposition to the measure which, it believes, will increase the number of offenders in already "grossly overcrowded" prisons.

More offenders will be sentenced to immediate imprisonment because courts which might have imposed suspended sentences will now be tempted to give offenders a taste of prison, the society says and many offenders who would have been given a short immediate prison term will be given a term, part of which will be suspended and commuted if the offender commits another offence.

The society adds that in the opinion of its criminal law committee, it is "wrong in principle for an offender to leave prison with a suspended sentence hanging over his or her head."

Initially, the new powers will apply only to offenders aged 21 and over who are sentenced to not less than six months and not more than two years in prison. Courts will be able to suspend between one quarter and three quarters of the sentence.

Provisions in the Criminal Justice Bill are intended to make the use of partly-suspended sentences more flexible.

The society has also expressed concern over another measure in the Bill which has aroused opposition from, among others, the Legal Action Group, the lawyers' pressure group: the measure

to relax the eight-day remand rule, so that it will no longer be necessary to bring prisoners on remand before courts every eight days.

The Magistrates' Association yesterday criticized a measure in the Bill which empowers the Home Secretary, in an emergency, to release prisoners. Lady Ralph, chairman, said: "There are principles deeply valued in our system of justice which should not be undermined in a time of crisis. This measure allows the executive to set aside a decision of the judiciary and a number of magistrates are very concerned about it."

The decision should be submitted to Parliament, she said. "Law and order is established by the attitude of the public and the Home Secretary should not, at a stroke, be able to undermine the practice of the law."

Sir Nicholas Bonsor, Conservative MP for Nantwich, is expected to table an amendment to meet the association's objections when the clause is debated in committee today.

'Straight' report call

A monthly government publication containing reports of Scottish crime and court cases is needed to counterbalance the media's highly selective reporting of the subject, a report from Glasgow University's Department of Sociology said yesterday. (David Hewson writes).

The authors of the report, said that crimes involving sex and violence appeared more frequently in newspapers than their occurrence would justify.

They recommend that the Scottish Home and Health Department implement an independent channel of information on the "true picture" of crime in Scotland. *Bias in Newspapers Crime Reports* (John Dillon, James Duffy, Glasgow University).

BLACKMAIL CLAIM IN FRAUD CASE

From Our Correspondent Manchester

Julie Goodear, the Coronation Street actress, was blackmailed by a former boy friend, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr William Clarke made the allegation at Manchester Crown Court where the actress and two other women deny conspiracy to defraud the public over a charity collection.

Clarke, who has already admitted fraud, was being questioned about a piece of paper which he said contained the name and address in Weston-Super-Mare of the actress's former boy friend. Clarke handed the paper to Judge Gerrard, saying that it was in Miss Goodear's handwriting and that she had asked him to visit the actress.

When asked if it was the name of a man to whom Miss Goodear had been engaged he replied "Yes, and he was blackmailing her." Mr Harold Singer, counsel for Miss Goodear, alleged Clarke was trying to "get in another dig" at the actress. "You are forcing me to do that", Clarke replied.

The prosecution alleges that Miss Goodear, aged 39, of Rochdale Road, East, Heywood, Manchester, Janet Ross, aged 28, of Berwick Road, Blackpool, and Victoria Montague, aged 24, of Gloucester Street, Atherton, Lancashire, were part of a conspiracy to defraud the public.

It has been claimed that a competition to raise cash for a cancer research fund did not sell enough tickets to pay for the prize car. The winner of the car was fixed and the vehicle then sold with the money being put back into the fund, it was alleged. The trial was adjourned until today.

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RESERVE FORCES

Up to 7,000 young people are to be offered Outward Bound type courses with the armed forces, announced in the Commons. The courses would be between two and three weeks and would be free.

Mr. Nott also gave details of his proposals to expand the reserve forces. He said that the Government was determined to give greater emphasis to the reserve forces, and that we intended to expand the strength of the Territorial Army steadily from 70,000 to 86,000 men and women.

Our first priority must be to improve the operational efficiency, equipment, accommodation and structure of the present Territorial Army. As the House knows, in the coming financial year we are providing for an increase in the number of man training days to 42 for independent units and if this increase is used effectively it will enable the TA to achieve a higher standard of training overall. We shall also be allowing selected units to recruit up to 3,500 above their establishment, "overhead" where they can make good use of the extra numbers.

We shall be raising new units. These will include the equivalent of two new regiments of Royal Engineers for home defence tasks (six squadrons in all), an extra company of Royal Signals, the 51st Highland Volunteers and the Royal Regiment of Wales. Reconnaissance platoons will be formed for 15 of the Infantry battalions with tank and signals roles. Link platoons will be provided to the three No. 2 battalions which require them.

In addition, better use will be made of existing units by reorganising them. The Infantry division based in Britain which will reinforce BAOR on mobilisation will include two brigades formed largely from TA combat units. This division will also be used for its logistic support on a regiment's work of TA logistics units based in Scotland, the North of England. For home defence, the pressing need for improved reconnaissance will be met by re-rolling three yeomanry regiments.

The expanded Territorial Army must have suitable accommodation and equipment for its very demanding task. Twelve new Territorial Army centres will be started this year and existing accommodation will be modernised and improved. Issues of Milan anti-tank weapons and Crotchet anti-aircraft missiles are proceeding well and that of the eight tonne truck has just started. The new anti-armour weapon and the new small arms for the 1990s will be issued early to TA units assigned to BAOR.

I would also like to announce the creation of a new home service force which we plan to start by early September as a pilot scheme. It will be linked to the TA and will consist largely of men with considerable regular service experience. The force will provide assistance to the regular forces in time of tension and war, particularly in the guarding of vital United Kingdom installations.

A total of four trial companies will be raised in Scotland and Eastern, Western and South Eastern Districts. If the scheme is successful I envisage that the strength of the force could reach some 4,500.

We must be able to mobilise our reserves rapidly. The new computer-based individual reinforcement plan halves the time needed to mobilise our regular reservists. In last year's exercise more than 90 per cent of reservists reported and we shall build on this major success so that the TA can eventually cover more than 50,000 men and women.

We shall go ahead with re-rolling the Royal Naval Reserve. Two of its three highly effective mine-hunters have already undergone major refits and the third is currently doing so. We aim to replace the RNR's mine-sweepers by new vessels - Fleet mine-sweepers - and can confirm to the House that we are now taking fresh tender action and that orders for the first batch of four will be placed this year.

In the case of the Royal Air Force the House will be aware that the Royal Air Force Reserve Regiment squadrons for the ground defence of operational airfields were set up on a trial basis in July, 1979, at Hounslow, Lossiemouth and Scampton. I intend to form further squadrons at St. Mawgan, Farnborough and Marham in the course of the next two years.

Finally, there are the cadet forces which have an important role in your community service and as a source of recruiting to the regular services. We plan to provide some additional support for them in 1982-83, including an increase in expenditure on essential work services and new huts.

The significance of reserve service lies not only in the extra military capability which it gives, vital though this is. Just as important is the demonstration of the commitment to their own security. The defence of our nation must be seen to depend not only on the quality of our elite professional armed services but also on a widespread popular commitment to our national defence. Most important of all, it is our young people who have little opportunity to come into contact with our regular armed services, a high proportion of whom serve in Her Majesty's ships or abroad.

Due to the very low numbers leaving the armed services at present and the consequential

reduction in recruit intakes, there is currently some spare capacity in the training establishments of all three services.

I have, therefore, examined a number of possibilities for temporarily filling our excess capacity and have decided on the following scheme. My intention is to offer up to 7,000 young people a short two or three week period with each of the armed services starting from the middle of April this year. The courses will be open to young men and women who would apply through recruiting offices and would undertake courses with service instructors covering a range of activities.

The courses will be short but I hope that a period of mixing with service instructors will give the young people concerned an insight into service life.

The expansion of the TA and the RAF reserves, the creation of a pilot scheme for a new home service force, the continuing success of the Royal Naval Reserve and the new regular reserve units will combine, I believe, to form a useful strengthening of our defences.

The modest, wholly voluntary scheme that I have announced for young people will I hope prove to be a success.

Mr. Nott, Minister of Defence, said that the "modest, wholly voluntary scheme" for young people was not as ambitious as they had been led to believe by the leaks in the press.

This was a reserve force statement, not a very revolutionary one, but it was surprising to note that it had been made by the Secretary of State himself and not by a junior minister.

There was a reason for this - the realization on both sides of the House that there is alarm and concern about the future of the Trident programme, and its effect upon the conventional defence of this island.

Mr. Nott's press release on February 25, it was shown that total recruitment for the armed forces was down by 54 per cent in the last half of 1981 against the last half of 1980, and recruitment of Royal Naval officers had decreased in number by 40 per cent in the same period. Royal Naval ratings had decreased by 87 per cent. The Army was down by 55 per cent and the RAF down by 25 per cent.

The whole of the statement was a smokescreen to prevent the House from understanding what is being done to the conventional forces of this country?

Mr. Nott: I decided to give the statement myself because in the Defence White Paper which we published last June we laid considerable emphasis on the need to extend our reserve forces.

When Mr. Silkin had said the scheme for young people was not as ambitious as some newspapers

Nott: Modest scheme

had predicted, it was not clear whether he would have liked it to be more or less ambitious.

I was hoping at one time (the went on) that we could have a more ambitious scheme. One of the ideas we considered was for using it as part of the youth employment arrangements but that was met by opposition of the Manpower Services Commission and so we did not proceed with that more ambitious scheme.

The services now contained far greater number than they did when Labour left office. The last quarterly figures showed the outflow of young people from the numbers leaving - was lower than at any time since conscription, and that was something else that should be expected if retention had been as high as it was.

It was because out-flow from the services this year would be about 23,000 for all three services rather than a higher figure that we should be expected if retention had been as high as it was.

Sir Philip Goodhart (Bromley, Beckenham, C): Is there any intention to increase the number of regular officers and NCOs and to TA units?

Mr. Nott: We are creating specialist training teams and recruit teams which will be composed of regular soldiers, NCOs and officers, to try to help improve the training, recruitment and efficiency of the existing TA.

Mr. Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L): We welcome the strengthening of the TA. The TA has been described as an adventure holiday scheme. There can be nothing to which anyone can take exception, but the fact that the Government is unable to tackle the major problem of three million unemployed.

Mr. Nott: I called it a modest scheme and I am not making any claim for it. It is popular among young people it will prove to be useful. I do not put it any higher than that.

Sir Hector Monro (Dumfries, C), a former member of the auxiliary air force, said: All universities will be delighted at their expanding role in the future defence of this country, in view of the great success of the Auxiliary Squad-

Silkin: Alarm and fear

rons in the last war is there any hope of a flying role?

Mr. Nott: There is not at present a plan to use the auxiliary air force in a flying role.

Mr. Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab): Since at least 50 per cent of the combat forces available to Allied Command in Europe in time of conflict will come from reserves, is it not imperative that Britain's contribution to the defence of Europe should be credible? Will he say a word about the retention rate in the second year of the TA? Is he satisfied with the quality of the current training and equipment of the volunteer reserve - both crucial?

Mr. Nott: Exercise Crusader, involving many thousands of our reservists for the reinforcement of our regular divisions on the Rhine, was an enormous success. It was thought by all our NATO allies to have gone remarkably well and has greatly increased the confidence of NATO in our ability to reinforce and reinforce rapidly.

Mr. Robert Brown (Newcastle upon Tyne, West, Lab): The short hours for young people is a measure of the utter bankruptcy of this Government's policies. Why not think about spending some money to improve the efficiency of the TA?

Mr. Nott: That is exactly what we are doing. We will be spending an additional £12m in the next financial year on the TA, over and above what has originally been intended, and over the next three or four years we are increasing expenditure on the TA by about £50m.

Mr. Frank Allan (Salford, East, Lab): Is the Ministry spending some money to improve the efficiency of the TA? It is the goodness of its heart or is it because this is a prelude to compulsory national service for the unemployed?

Mr. Nott: It is nothing to do with national service or conscription. It is voluntary. It is likely to generate quite a lot of interest particularly in his part of the country.

Mr. Nott said later that the youth scheme probably cost about £1,500,000.

FOREIGN

Statements in Argentina about the future of the Falkland Islands have caused Lord Carrington, Foreign Secretary, and other ministers deep concern. Mr. Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said during a question time, he also said that the statements reported today (Wednesday) from Argentina had not been helpful to the solution of the dispute over the Falkland Islands.

Mr. Luce said that he and the Argentine Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs had agreed in New York on February 26 and 27 the need to resolve the dispute but he had made clear that the British Government had no doubts about British sovereignty and that no solution could be agreed which was not acceptable to the islanders and to the House of Commons.

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Deep concern about Falklands

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Reconciling paramount interests

Genuine differences of view existed between the Government and the government of Israel but there had also been a lot of unnecessary misunderstandings though these were cleared away. Mr. Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that he was asked to clarify relations between the two countries.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Sadat trial evidence cut short

Cairo.—The military court trying 24 Muslims accused of assassinating President Sadat ordered the termination of defence evidence and said there would be a verdict on Saturday. The move was bitterly condemned by Defence lawyers as the "end of a mass slaughter". (Our Correspondent writes).

The trial started on November 21 amid official comments that it would end in one month. But the defence said recently it was attempting to put Sadat's policies on trial to justify his assassination. Lawyers claimed they had completed the defence of only 10 accused.

Mr Abdel Ramadan, head of the 35-man defence team appeared agitated and angry about the court ruling. "The 24 are human beings entitled to a fair and legal trial. We needed at least 40 more sessions to complete our defence," he added.

Senators deal blow to busing

Washington.—The Senate has approved by 57 votes to 37 the most far-reaching anti-busing legislation ever to be passed before either house of Congress. The Bill would virtually outlaw busing as a means of desegregating public schools by prohibiting federal courts from ordering students to be bused more than five miles or 15 minutes from their homes (Nicholas Ashford writes).

Conservatives have hailed the vote as a big victory. However, the legislation still has to be approved by the House of Representatives where it is expected to meet tough opposition.

Yugoslavs shot in Brussels

Brussels.—Two Yugoslavs were killed and three injured in a shooting at a Yugoslav community centre here. One of the injured was seriously ill.

According to witnesses, a man entered the centre armed with a sub-machine gun and opened fire before escaping.

Stalking upsets Mrs Onassis

New York.—Mrs Jacqueline Onassis, who has complained to a federal judge about the "relentless stalking and constant surveillance" of her and her children by a celebrity photographer.

In 1975, a judge ordered the photographer, Mr Ronald Galella, to stay 25ft away from Mrs Onassis and 30ft from her children. Ruling that Galella was getting too close, the court decided yesterday on another hearing to determine penalties.

New York.—The United States has submitted to the United Nations a detailed account of independent medical analysis of blood samples taken from victims of an alleged yellow rain onslaught in Cambodia (Zoriana Fysariwsky writes). It admits, however, that the evidence is largely circumstantial.

In its letter, Washington appears more interested in providing information that could benefit its own investigation than with passing categorical judgment.

UN gets yellow rain evidence

Paris.—For the second time in three months, several associations of hospital doctors called their members out on strike in protest against the plans of M Jack Paline, the Communist Minister of Health, to abolish private hospital beds (Charles Hargrove writes).

The "strike" was mostly a token one. Doctors cared for in-patients and emergencies but not out-patients. About 1,000 doctors in white coats marched on the Ministry of Health and handed in a petition.

Token strike by French doctors

Guatemala City.—Clinics in western Guatemala have been burnt down by guerrillas fighting to overthrow the Government, Señor Roquelino Recinos, the Health Minister, said yesterday.

Police said only four of the 31 health centres in Huehuetenango province had not been attacked by guerrillas.

Guerrillas raze health clinics

Poland is preparing a radical shift in its trading pattern to minimize its economic dependence on the West, according to an official who accompanied General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, to Moscow.

The official, who wanted to remain anonymous, said three levels of economic aid had been discussed in Moscow. First, there was Soviet assistance to relieve the immediate effects of the West's limited sanctions against Warsaw. Second, there would be Comecon assistance to increase the use of industrial capacity in Poland and ease unemployment there. Finally, long-term plans for completely changing the focus of Poland's trade with the world were discussed in the talks with President Brezhnev and other Soviet leaders.

This last point, the official said, represented "a turning point", indicating that it meant a much deeper relationship with the Eastern block. Meanwhile, the Soviet Union was giving assistance in hard currency to help Poland "through these troubled times". He refused to say, however, whether detailed questions of financing Poland's \$28,000m (£15,000m) debt with the West were discussed. The official was asked whether the Soviet Union would help to pay off outstanding interest on its 1981 debts to the West, the official would say only: "Poland is going to pay off its debts. The terms and dates of this repayment are dependent on outside factors determined by the complicated political and international conditions."

The official, an officer in the Polish Army, emphasized parts of the final communiqué that acknowledged Poland's right to settle its own problems without foreign interference and recognized that Poland's borders were just and international law should be respected. Although these comments were intended to demonstrate that the United States has no right to interfere in Polish affairs, a long standing complaint since martial law, they also indicated when made in the context of a trip to Moscow, underlining the Soviet willingness to allow Poland time to find its own way out of the crisis without direct intervention.

On the face of it, the final communiqué gave little encouragement to the reform-minded members of the Polish Communist Party. They were hoping that if the Soviet Union gave explicit backing to the "moderate" policies of General Jaruzelski, the chances of pushing through limited changes would be increased.

But the reformists have found two sources of consolation. The first, though it is scant encouragement, is a favourable reference to the ninth emergency party congress last summer. This congress attempted to trim away the extremes of party policy, edging out radical reformers who sympathized with the Solidarity, the free

Poles to reduce trade links with the West

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, March 3

trade union organization, and the more extreme hardliners. Secondly, the emphasis on economic aid during the summit meeting with Mr Brezhnev is an attempt to give confidence in the Government's economic programme which incorporates some elements of reform and grants some scope for initiative to individual managers.

The net result in terms of the balance of power between "hardliners" and "moderates" is that little has been changed by General Jaruzelski's visit. The Soviet Union appears to give the general full backing, but seems keener to back one half of his policies — cracking down on dissidents — rather than the other half which endorses gradual reform. But the general appears to have bought himself time.

□ Moscow: Reflecting evident Soviet satisfaction at the outcome of the two-day visit here of General Jaruzelski, newspapers today gave great prominence to his meetings with Mr Brezhnev and the lengthy communiqué in which he gave an undertaking to suppress any future challenge to Poland's communist system (Michael Binyon writes).

The joint communiqué said the Polish side had emphasized that "any attempts to resume actions aimed at causing economic disarray, the resumption of anarchy, disturbances, or changing the social and political system will be cut short most resolutely".

The Polish leader also promised that the Communist Party would be strengthened and that Poland would remain a socialist state.

Suggesting one area of disagreement, however, it said nothing about Poland's internal problems, the release of detainees or any future role for a trade union movement.

□ Washington: Reacting to sharp European criticism, the Reagan Administration has decided to avoid for the moment a confrontation with its allies over the controversial pipeline which would bring Russian natural gas to western Europe. White House officials have disclosed (Bailey Morris writes).

Mr David Gergen, the White House Director of Communications, said President Reagan would not take any action on the pipeline until after a special American team was sent to Europe in the next two weeks to consult senior government officials.

□ Madrid: The Polish Government is planning the imminent release of hundreds of arrested citizens, Mr Włodzimierz Konarski, a Polish Foreign Ministry official, said here today (Harry Debelius writes).

Mr Konarski, who heads his country's delegation at the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe revealed the impending releases at a mass conference in connexion with the Madrid conference. He said more than 3,000 Poles were still detained.

Muzzle on the press

Journalists resort to oblique attacks

From Our Own Correspondent, Warsaw, March 3

Although critical Polish journalists are being weeded out of the country's newspapers (the process is known as "verification") some reformers and columnists have found ways of slipping through oblique attacks on the martial law authorities.

The latest example comes in a copy of the Gdansk daily, *Dziennik Bałtycki* that has just reached the editor. One article reviews a pop record by the British singer Amanda Lear, employing exactly the terms used to justify martial law in the political columns. Thus Miss Lear's record is described as an antidote to extremism, a way of bringing the population back to reality and so on.

All good clean fun. But the first letter of each paragraph spells out the words *WRONA Skona* — literally, "the crow will die". But the first four letters are the initials for the Military Council for National Salvation, meaning that the writer's intent is to say the "Military Council shall perish", an unpopular sentiment with the authorities.

Editors on the newspaper say that the writer, a freelance reviewer, claimed that the effect was an accidental one. But no, he was no longer reviewing for *Dziennik Bałtycki*.

The use of the press for political purposes is becoming more and more important as the Government increasingly commits itself to "public consultation" on such matters as price rises and trade union reform. However, the control of newspapers and especially television is such that little critical information can appear.

Mr Janusz Zablocki, head of the Neo-Znak Catholic groupings, said yesterday, hopes that he will be able to allow some of the columns of his group's newspaper to be

used by Solidarity members, expressing their views on the future of the trade union movement. But the Neo-Znak newspaper is still suspended whereas the rival newspaper, *Polityka*, once a forum for reform-minded journalists and politicians. Now it is a very straitlaced weekly, tentative in its judgments about the latest moves of the Government. It was one of the arguments he used in objecting to the 9 per cent price increase proposed by the European Commission.

The European Commission last year failed to bring France before the court in time to stop it paying aid worth about £400m. This time the Commission has acted more promptly in an attempt to stop distribution of the money due to begin at the end of this month.

□ London: Mr Walker said tonight that the Commission's decision to take France to court would be warmly welcomed throughout the Community (Our Agriculture Correspondent writes).

"Since the announcement of a massive injection of national aid was made last December 1, with the support of other ministers, have pressed the Commission to take action."

It was vital in 1982 that the Commission showed that it would be effective in preventing the unfair disruption of competition and trade within the community. "It is imperative that we press for action and not words."



President Mitterrand arriving at Ben-Gurion airport where he was met by President Yitzhak Navon and wheelchair bound Mr Begin, the prime minister.

Israel hails Mitterrand as true friend

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, March 3

The unfamiliar tones of the Marseillaise ringing from radio and television sets throughout Israel today heralded a new era in Franco-Israeli relations as Francois Mitterrand became the first French president to pay an official visit since the founding of the state in 1948.

Mitterrand quickly displayed his reluctance to be swayed by Arab and French criticism of his twice-postponed visit. Speaking briefly at the airport, he forcefully expressed the hope that his 48-hour visit would revive the friendship between the French and Israeli people, and render it both durable and irreversible.

His greetings were echoed by President Yitzhak Navon, who was on the airport to welcome him, together with Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, still confined to a wheelchair by his three-month-old hip injury. Mr Navon called the French President a "true friend, faithful to his word, faithful to his principles".

For Israeli ministers, gathered uncomformably in the airport drizzle, the arrival of the French entourage was the fulfilment of hopes initially raised by Mitterrand's election last year. Since then his arrival has been delayed first by Israel's attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor, and then by the annexation of the Golan Heights.

As was made clear at the airport ceremony, Mitterrand is no stranger to Israel. He has made five previous visits either in a private capacity or as leader of Socialist delegations.

"It is perhaps no coincidence," said Francois Mitterrand should be the first head of the French republic to visit Israel," the *Jerusalem Post* said. "For, of all recent French presidents he has undoubtedly shown the keenest interest in the history of the Jewish people and the deepest sympathy for the state the Jews have established in their ancestral homeland" the paper said.

Without exception, the Israeli press has reacted enthusiastically to the visit, which is viewed as a welcome respite from the diplomatic isolation suffered by Israel in recent years. Although there is little anticipation of returning to what one commentator dubbed "the golden days" of the early 1960s, there are high hopes for a marked improvement in day-to-day relationships.

Some leading figures from the occupied West Bank have criticized the visit. But four elected Arab mayors will hold talks tomorrow with M. Mitterrand, the French Foreign Minister. They are expected to seek his support for having Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, invited to Jerusalem. No doubt they will also detail their allegations of Israel's "creeping annexation" of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The French visit has proved popular among ordinary Israelis. Mitterrand

seems a particular favourite with Sephardic Jews, who came here from North Africa.

After today's airport ceremonial, troop review, and 21-gun salute, Mitterrand and his wife drove to Jerusalem. Israeli's French language radio pointed out that he was obliged to cross in and out of the occupied West Bank — as that is how the road has been built — despite his strict determination to keep out of occupied territory during his stay. On Friday, helicopters flying him north to visit a kibbutz and the old crusader port of Acre will make a long detour to avoid flying over the West Bank.

Late this afternoon, the French President began the first in his hectic round of political talks with a meeting at Mr Begin's office. This was followed by an official dinner at the Knesset, where Mitterrand will tomorrow make the public address which most observers regard as the key-point of his trip.

EEC takes France to court

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 3

The European Commission today decided to take France to the European Court over its plans to introduce a series of national aids for farmers, worth about £364m. The were announced by the French Government shortly before Christmas.

They included aid for young farmers. About a third of the package announced at the time, involving disaster help for areas hit by bad weather, has been allowed by the Commission.

It was the first package for farmers put together by the Socialist Government and it had a strong emphasis on helping smaller farmers and narrowing the income gap between large and small producers. This was opposed by the main French farming union at the time.

It was also attacked by Mr Peter Walker, British Agricultural Minister, who told last month's Council meeting that it represented "a ridiculous perversion of the whole trading position of the Community. The aid meant that French farmers were subsidized nationally in a way which led to unfair competition with British farmers."

It was one of the arguments he used in objecting to the 9 per cent price increase proposed by the European Commission.

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Soviet space advance

Laser gun feared by 1990

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 3

The Pentagon has inadvertently revealed that the Soviet Union will have an orbital space complex capable of launching laser attacks on ground, sea and air targets operational by 1990.

This prediction was first made by Mr Richard Delauer, the Defence Under-Secretary for Research and Engineering, during testimony at a closed-door session of the House Armed Services Committee last week. It was then repeated by Mr Ken Kramer, a member of the House of Representatives, during a public committee hearing soon afterwards where it was recorded by a reporter from the *Army Times*, an unofficial publication dealing with military news.

According to Mr Kramer's statements as published in the journal, Mr Delauer told the committee: "We expect a large, permanent, manned Soviet orbital space complex to be operational around 1990... capable of effectively attacking ground, sea and air targets."

This forecast represents a substantial advance over previous official assessments of Soviet preparations for space warfare. Until now it was widely believed that Soviet efforts were mainly concentrated on developing space-based lasers to attack American satellites rather than ground targets.

There was no immediate comment from the Pentagon on Mr Delauer's reported statement. However, the United States is known to be working on space-based laser and particle-beam weapons as an anti-ballistic missile defence and as satellite killers.

However, only \$218.3m (£110m) less than 1 per cent of the defence budget — is earmarked for space defence in the fiscal year 1983. There has been speculation that Mr Delauer's forecast was deliberately leaked to gain support for a bigger space warfare programme.

America and the Soviet Union agreed in 1967 not to use outer space for nuclear or other weapons of mass destruction. But both nations have been working for years on space-based weapons which could be used to destroy nuclear-armed missiles before they reach their target or destroy the other side's communications and detection satellites.

The Soviet Union is understood to have made particularly big strides in this field in recent years.

□ Brussels: Soviet defence expenditure, increasing at the rate of 4 per cent annually, will reach 15 per cent of the gross domestic product by 1985 (Frederick Bonnard writes).

This is the conclusion of Nato experts who have made a detailed analysis of the

Soviet defence effort which, while it had remained in proportion to the gross domestic product at the beginning of the 1970s, rose to a rate of 12 to 14 per cent by the end of the decade.

Approximately one-fifth of the expenditure was on research, development, trials and evaluation, while over one-third was devoted to procurement and construction of military installations. In 1980, this latter figure amounted to almost one-half of the total expenditure, while only one-third went on operating expenses such as personnel costs, use and maintenance.

Research and development showed the highest rate of increase, closely followed by procurement of new equipment. This, the experts point out, is confirmed by the qualitative improvement of the Soviet defence forces.

Intercontinental rocket forces accounted for more than 10 per cent of the total Soviet military expenditure.

A reduction of military expenditure may appear desirable in the long run, the experts conclude, but they consider it unlikely that any savings would have an appreciable influence on the continued growth before the end of the 1980s. The level of expenditure continues to be very high and allows for ample modernization programmes in the Soviet armed forces.

JAPAN TOLD CHOICE IS CHAOS

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, March 3

Japan must play a greater political role in world affairs and strengthen her ties with the European Community, Mr Leo Tindemans, the President of the European Council of Ministers, said today.

At the same time Mr Tindemans warned Japanese leaders that the world could face a dangerous recession unless the United States, Japan and the EEC worked out a new monetary system which would instil more confidence.

"The alternative is chaos. Unless such a dialogue is established the industrialized nations will find themselves near to economic collapse."

Nearly one million voters in the Transvaal went to the polls today to elect 100 new town and rural councils in what is widely seen here as an unofficial plebiscite on the willingness of South Africa's whites to tolerate further relaxation of apartheid.

The racial issue has been sharpened by the real possibility that the small anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party, which is very much in the minority in the national Parliament in Cape Town, will gain control of Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, for the first time.

The PFP already holds 22 of Johannesburg's 47 wards, and needs to capture only two more seats to win

outright majority over the National Party of Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, which rules the city council in alliance with the Independent Ratepayers' Association. The adjoining municipalities of Sandton and Randburg could also fall to the PFP.

At the other end of the white political spectrum — in all-black townships — the extreme right-wing Herengere Nationale (reconstituted national) Party (HNP) of Mr Jap Marais, which broke away from the National Party in 1969, has a good chance of winning seats on some councils for the first time. This is a feat it has never achieved at the national level.

The powers of town council

The Reagan wagons defended in Cheyenne

From Michael Hamlyn, Los Angeles, March 3

A child gave President Reagan a cowboy hat in Cheyenne, Wyoming, yesterday and he put it on. It was an appropriate gesture. He had come to the old Western town to lead the defence of the beleaguered wagons of his budget.

Presidents do not often come to Cheyenne. The last to do so was Kennedy in September, 1963, and before that Truman in 1948. So Cheyenne was flattered. Albuquerque, New Mexico, another Western frontier town, was given a flying visit and a presidential budget speech.

The wagon that the President was most concerned to defend was labelled "funds for the defence". He said "My commitment to cutting taxes and rebuilding our defences is every bit as strong today as it was the day I took office. There will be no retreat in these areas."

He noted that many legislators are attempting (after his Mid-Western challenge to his critics to "put up or shut up") to devise alternate programmes to his own.

But he declared: "This Administration is willing to consider any comprehensive programme as long as it does not compromise the fundamentals of our tax cut programme."

"The American peoples have been promised tax relief. Last year the Congress passed tax relief, and as long as I have any in the matter no one is going to take it away. Incentive must be returned to those who work, save and invest."

Speaking at a rally in support of Senator Harrison Schmitt of New Mexico, a former astronaut, the President also set himself against cutting back on another fundamental — his defence programme. "We can't afford to compromise on national defence needs."

Mr Reagan warned his Cheyenne audience: "We dare not reduce our defence budget. The bulk of the increase is not going for fancy new planes or elaborate weapons systems. Most of the money is going for basic essentials now in dangerously short supply."

"I don't think Americans want their armed forces held together with chewing gum and baling wire, unable to move for want of spare parts."

The President's budget includes an increase of defence spending of \$34,000m (£18,000m). At the same time he is proposing to maintain tax cuts passed last year which in the next 12 months will amount to \$91,400m. The resulting budget deficit is being seized on by both Republican and Democratic critics of the President, anxious to parade their financial responsibility. He derided particularly the Democrats as "kind of like hearing a nigger in Central Park complain about crime in the streets."

He pointed out to his Wyoming audience: "We don't have a budget deficit because we don't tax enough. We have a budget deficit because we spend too much." He repeated it in Albuquerque. But he was quite firm in asserting: "As much as I detest the idea of deficits, as President I must accept a large deficit if that is what it takes to buy peace for the rest of the century."

The President's stunning success last year in forcing his budget through a sometimes reluctant Congress was in no small part due to the strength of his appeal over the heads of the legislature to the American people. Yesterday's speeches marked a similar attempt to claim the support of the West's outdoors, self-reliant part of the country where he himself feels most at home.

He derided the "hand wringers" who paralysed Washington. "You don't have to spend much time in Washington to appreciate the prophetic vision of the man who designed the streets," he said "they go round in circles."

"I have a message for the pessimists of the Potomac. The rest of the country still believes in America and in tomorrow."

Polls test mood of white reform

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, March 5

Nearly one million voters in the Transvaal went to the polls today to elect 100 new town and rural councils in what is widely seen here as an unofficial plebiscite on the willingness of South Africa's whites to tolerate further relaxation of apartheid.

The racial issue has been sharpened by the real possibility that the small anti-apartheid Progressive Federal Party, which is very much in the minority in the national Parliament in Cape Town, will gain control of Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, for the first time.

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outright majority over the National Party of Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, which rules the city council in alliance with the Independent Ratepayers' Association. The adjoining municipalities of Sandton and Randburg could also fall to the PFP.

At the other end of the white political spectrum — in all-black townships — the extreme right-wing Herengere Nationale (reconstituted national) Party (HNP) of Mr Jap Marais, which broke away from the National Party in 1969, has a good chance of winning seats on some councils for the first time. This is a feat it has never achieved at the national level.

The powers of town council

cils are fairly limited, and even if the PFP took over Johannesburg it would not be able to change the basic legislation underpinning apartheid, such as the Group Areas Act which prohibits people of different race from occupying the same residential area.

The councils have a degree of autonomy, however, in determining how public amenities are to be used.

A strong showing by the PFP today could be used by Opposition MPs as evidence that white opinion is ready for the bolder reforms of the apartheid system which the Government, having shed its right wing, is now in theory free to pursue. This argument will lose some of its force, however, if the HNP also does well.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Assault on jail sets 230 free

Lima. — Terrorists freed 230 inmates from a prison in the southern city of Ayacucho in a bloody attack in which 10 people were killed and several injured, the Peruvian Government said.

General José Gagliardi, the Interior Minister, said the dead included three policemen and seven of the attackers. He added that dynamite and machine guns were used in the main assault and in a series of diversionary attacks on three police stations and a hospital.

A state of emergency was declared in Ayacucho, an Andean city of 100,000 inhabitants and 210 police reinforcements were sent from Lima.

Turkish line on Cyprus backed

Ankara. — In the first official Turkish comment on the recent visit to Cyprus by Mr Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, Mr İler Türkmen, the Foreign Minister, insisted that intercommunal talks between the two Cypriot communities — and not internationalization — represented the only viable means of reaching a settlement.

Mr Robert Strausz-Hupé, the American Ambassador, told a press conference that he backed that view and that Washington's attitude had not changed.

Referee flees field twice

Valdeobispo, Spain. — A referee ran a mile to a Civil Guards barracks to seek protection from angry football fans after ordering the local goalkeeper off the field in this southern Spanish town.

When the game resumed later, he gave a penalty against the visiting team, Cabezuela, and again had to run off the field as their fans turned on him. The match was abandoned.

Strike stops papers

Amsterdam. — Some 40 Dutch newspapers failed to appear because of a strike by printers over the Government's plans to cut sickness benefits. Only two provincial papers appeared.

Bonn faces its third scandal in one month

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 3

West Germany today faced its third scandal in a month as the federal prosecutor opened treason investigations against Bavaria's top security chief for allegedly divulging dubious activities by the West German intelligence service.

Herr Hans Langemann, aged 57, is suspected of revealing state secrets to the left-wing monthly *Konkret*. He is alleged to have divulged among other things, that BND the country's intelligence service, had placed an agent close to the then President Nixon in 1969 to influence him in favour of West Germany.

He was also quoted as saying that the BND had placed another agent close to Cardinal Franz König, the Archbishop of Vienna, and one of the Catholic Church's leading authorities on Eastern Europe. The agent's sources of information about Eastern Europe.

Top officials of the BND — the report claims — persuaded the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington to take inaccessible to the public captured Nazi-era documents in American archives linking a former Federal Chancellor Herr Georg Kiesinger, with the Nazi regime.

Konkret based its report on what it claimed were eight hours of tape-recorded reminiscences by Herr Langemann about his years as a BND agent and spy-master between 1957 and 1970. It also claims to have spoken to Herr Langemann himself and checked the mass of corroborating documents, many marked secret or top secret, which it published along with the article.

Herr Langemann, *Konkret* claimed, had written a manuscript about his experiences

and had asked a journalist to rewrite it in "marketable form". He had followed it up with long conversations. His revelations of the fiercely anti-establishment monthly declared, showed how the secret service had become "completely out of control" and was conducting politics independently of the Government.

Herr Langemann, who is now a top official responsible for security in the Bavarian Interior Ministry, has been suspended and subjected to disciplinary proceedings at his own request. The federal prosecutor has opened investigations against him on suspicion of treason, and against Herr Jürgen Saupé, the *Konkret* journalist who wrote the story, for disclosing state secrets.

The episode comes less than a month after disclosures of self-enrichment and tax evasion by top executives of Neue Heimat, the huge trade union-owned housing concern, and less than a week after investigations against two senior Cabinet ministers for alleged bribery. It is, however, less important politically because the alleged events happened several years ago under the Christian Democratic government.

The colourful article tells of priests, ladies of doubtful virtue, aristocrats, politicians and diplomats who worked for, or were involved with, the intelligence service. It alleged that the "Spiegel" affair, which led to the fall of Herr Franz-Josef Strauss, the then Defence Minister, was partly the work of the BND.

The secret report which *Der Spiegel* published on the poor state of the Bundeswehr provoked Herr Strauss to have the magazine's offices searched and its publisher arrested for suspected treason, had been sold them by officials of the BND, the monthly alleged. Herr Langemann was quoted as saying that he personally filmed documents which proved this from the seized *Der Spiegel* files under the eyes of the investigating prosecutor.

About the agent close to Mr Nixon, Herr Langemann is quoted as saying: "We didn't want any information from him... We wanted — that was the point of the operation — to let Nixon have German views from a close friend with whom he also financially involved."

Mr Robert Strausz-Hupé, the American Ambassador, told a press conference that he backed that view and that Washington's attitude had not changed.

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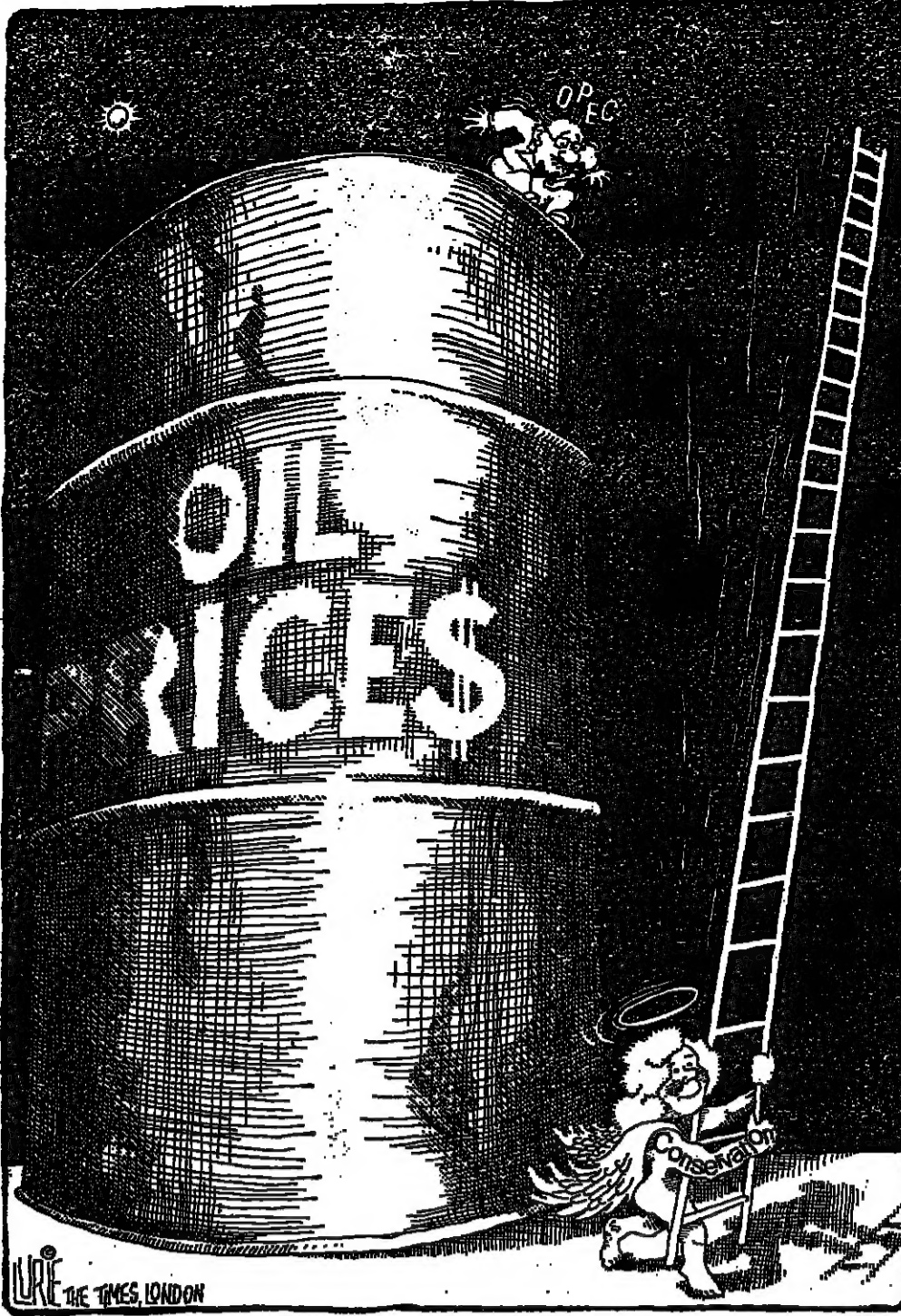
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Britain parries Argentine sabre

By David Cross

The British Government yesterday expressed deep concern about the latest sabre rattling statements from Argentina on the future of the Falkland Islands.

Answering questions in the House of Commons, Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said that the statements, which were made after a meeting between British and Argentine officials in New York last weekend, had not been helpful towards a resolution of the long-standing

dispute over the sovereignty of the British colony.

The Falkland Islands, which lie 300 miles off the Argentine coast in the south Atlantic, have been British since 1833 when British troops landed and expelled the Argentine governor.

Mr Luce reiterated successive British Governments' policy over the islands, namely that they will not be handed over to Argentina without the express approval of the Falkland Islanders and the British Parliament.

In a statement issued in Buenos Aires earlier this week, the Argentine Government said it would terminate negotiations with Britain this and seek other means of resolving the dispute unless there was a speedy settlement.

Officials in the Argentine capital said that the "other means" included recourse to the United Nations, a break in economic or political relations with Britain or a total rupture in diplomatic relations.

Another Central Committee member, Mr Mirco Spasov, who lost his post, is also believed to have been connected with the scandal. However, the Politburo member, Mr Peko Takov, was said to have been relieved of his post at his own request for reasons of ill health.

□ Economic reform: Compared with neighbouring Romania or trouble-ridden Poland, Bulgaria has been doing well economically but it has obviously reached the point where economic reforms have become imperative. Since the beginning of this year reforms have started in earnest to achieve greater efficiency through incentives and rational use of resources.

The most important change is to link wages and salaries to performance — the first recognition of the profit motive on the lines which Hungary has been practising successfully for more than a decade.

From now on, Bulgarian enterprises will be able to obtain funds only when they have marketed their output. Hitherto they were often producing unsaleable goods fit only for the storehouses.

The Government also has economic reasons for its decision. In France petrol costs about 50 francs more a ton than the European average, while the price of diesel and fuel oil is about 50 francs lower. The Government can also argue that the fall in world prices should have repercussions on the price of petrol.

Against this is the argument that the price cut could have waited a few weeks until the new system of calculating prices had been agreed with refineries, as some ministers argued; and that cutting petrol prices is an encouragement to use cars rather than public transport and therefore hardly consistent with the energy-saving policy.

But the Frenchman and his sacrosanct car, for which he is ready to sacrifice other items of his budget, like food, has won against all economic argument, the more so as the petrol price cut will compensate the adverse psychological effects of other increases.

These include rises in gas and electricity rates.

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Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

Atlantic Alliance in need of a policy

The state of the Atlantic Alliance is unsatisfactory, although the member governments have managed so far to adjust and combine their different perceptions of the world situation after Poland.

Compromises between the divergent policies suggested by various governments (on economic and financial links with Eastern Europe, on tactics at the Madrid conference, on the conduct of military negotiations with the Soviet Union) have been produced with some difficulty, thanks to a deliberate effort to maintain a united front at a time of uncertainty and danger. But the, so far, successful efforts of many worthy diplomats and political leaders have not wiped out a widespread fear that, when the time comes for hard decisions, the alliance may split wide open.

This may seem strange and even paradoxical, if one considers that the basic values of Western civilization, as well as the guiding principles and *raison d'être* of the alliance, have never seemed to be so necessary and valuable as they are at the present time.

Military repression in Poland, coming after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, at a time when the military balance of power endangered by heavy Soviet rearmament, ought to increase the importance of the Atlantic Alliance for all democratic nations.

The tensions which keep growing inside the Soviet block, the fact that the Soviet leaders seem able to react to these tensions only by using force, is a clear threat to us all.

But while there is no fundamental disagreement in the West on principles and values, there are deeply diverging views on matters of policy. Would a firm Western warning and clear indication that we are ready to go back to a cold-war relationship if we are not helped, be enough to help the Polish dissidents and remaining reformers more than a weak continuation of détente and cooperation?

Which policy — looking further ahead — would better help the rise of a new Khrushchev in the Kremlin, after the coming end of the Brezhnev era? One that emphasizes the costs of a continuation of the present Soviet aggressive and repressive policies? Or one

that makes it easier for the future Soviet leaders to solve their domestic economic difficulties thanks to Western cooperation?

Discussion of these policy alternatives is still in its initial stages at government level, while it has already produced a flood of word by political experts in the American and European press. Opinions vary as much as they possibly could.

But we do not only face a problem of defining long-term Atlantic policy: agreement on day-to-day tactics may be even more difficult to achieve. Since everybody genuinely agrees that a split in the alliance would be a disaster which must be avoided at all costs, a common statement on principles may be put together in time for President Reagan's visit to Europe next June.

But even if the Paris summit of the Seven and the Atlantic meeting which follows in Bonn produce the clearest of all possible documents (and one can doubt that they will), such documents will not provide all the answers to the practical problems which will later arise. We are facing a changing situation, and one loaded with dangers, which will demand a continuous adaptation of tactics.

The general raising of tempers, due to the most unfortunate coincidence of a crisis in Central America which deeply splits the alliance, and the American public opinion; but is it really a coincidence?, will put all transatlantic institutions under great stress.

No wonder that attention is again being given to the problem of strengthening these institutions. A "Euro-American act of friendship" has now been suggested by Signor Emilio Colombo, the Italian Foreign Minister, in a speech in Washington.

This "act" (a counterpart to the "European act" proposed by Signor Colombo and Herr Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister) should deal not only with principles and good intentions: it should also provide for periodic meetings of the foreign ministers of the Atlantic alliance and become an extension to America of Europe's political cooperation.

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Getty funds will go to museum

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, March 3

After being tied up in litigation for almost six years the J. Paul Getty bequest to his Californian museum in Malibu is being turned over to the seaside institution. The bequest will probably make it the richest museum in the world.

When the oil tycoon died in June, 1976, he left four million shares of Getty Oil Company stock, worth at the time \$700m (about £2.6m).

After long delays because of lawsuits and tax disputes the funds now are worth in excess of \$1,000m because of a four to one stock split and two stock sales and the current high interest rates.

The transfer of funds, however, began this week and will continue for the next few days. Under the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981, Mr J. Patrick Whaley, the museum attorney, said the museum would be required to distribute 4.5 per cent of its endowment throughout the year.

Last year the museum spent only \$4.5m, so the increased revenue is enormous. New York's much larger Metropolitan Museum of Art has a budget of \$27m.

Exports continued until the last century. British sportsmen and officials shot elephants like stray dogs. Major William Rogers killed 1,400; Sir Samuel Baker bagged around 1,000, and Major Thomas Skinner's score was 600.

Today, the Asian elephant faces extinction. There are only between 2,500 to 3,000 left in Sri Lanka and between 20,000 to 30,000 in the whole of Asia.

The greatest danger to the survival of elephants is from slaughter for the manufacture of curios for sale to tourists.

Mr Lyn de Alwis, the director of Wild Life Conservation, has shown the Duke of Edinburgh a special museum as a reminder of the danger to one of the country's greatest natural assets.

About half of the Sri Lanka elephant population is concentrated on one million acres of land that are being developed under the multi-purpose Mahaveli river diversion scheme. During his visit the Duke will watch an elephant drive in which hundreds of tuskers will be driven from areas scheduled for development under the Mahaveli scheme to the safety of the Wilpattu Park, which is 65 miles away.

Sri Lanka was chosen as the headquarters for the Asia Elephant Secretariate last year after a conference organised by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

This week's visit — concerned with elephant preservation — to Sri Lanka by the Duke of Edinburgh, the president of the World Wildlife Fund, makes a thorough contrast to royal visits of yesteryear when elephant hunts were the first item on the programme of visiting British royalty.

William Howard Russell, remembered for his dispatches on the Indian Mutiny and the Crimean War, accompanied the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII) on a visit to Ceylon in 1877 and gave readers of *The Times* a bullet by bullet description of how the Prince shot an elephant and "according to custom, cut off the tail. As soon as his back was turned, the Cingalese (sic) took pieces from the ears as trophies of the day."

Elephants from Ceylon were used by Hannibal in his campaign in the Alps, and

Bulgaria purges officials for embezzlement

From Dossa Trevisan, Belgrade, March 3

High-ranking members of the Bulgarian Central Committee have been dismissed in an embezzlement scandal connected with lavish festivities last year for the country's thirteen hundredth anniversary.

Among them is Mr Zhivko Popov, the former Ambassador in Prague and until his ambassadorial appointment the second man in the Foreign Ministry. He has also been expelled from the Communist Party, indicating that his offence was particularly grave.

Mr Popov had owed his spectacular rise to power to Ljudmila Zhivkova, President Zhivkov's daughter, who died last July after organizing the spectacular anniversary celebrations. Her death obviously precipitated the fall from grace of her protégés and raised questions about the vast sums she had spent on the festival.

The anniversary, which was celebrated all over Europe, culminated last October with a jubilee in Sofia attended by 4,000 dignitaries. About 50 jubilee committees were set up abroad to popularize Bulgaria, past and present.

A fund was opened for assembling papers and objects of historical value. Private persons and state organizations were asked to give financial support and vast sums were being spent on expensive publications which were distributed freely throughout the world. Mrs Zhivkova chaired the operation and was the initiator and the spirit behind the worldwide publicity campaign. But since her death there have been reports of embezzlement and misuse of the funds and inquiries into festivities abroad organized by Bulgarian embassies.

Another Central Committee member, Mr Mirco Spasov, who lost his post, is also believed to have been connected with the scandal. However, the Politburo member, Mr Peko Takov, was said to have been relieved of his post at his own request for reasons of ill health.

□ Economic reform: Compared with neighbouring Romania or trouble-ridden Poland, Bulgaria has been doing well economically but it has obviously reached the point where economic reforms have become imperative. Since the beginning of this year reforms have started in earnest to achieve greater efficiency through incentives and rational use of resources.

The most important change is to link wages and salaries to performance — the first recognition of the profit motive on the lines which Hungary has been practising successfully for more than a decade.

From now on, Bulgarian enterprises will be able to obtain funds only when they have marketed their output. Hitherto they were often producing unsaleable goods fit only for the storehouses.

The Government also has economic reasons for its decision. In France petrol costs about 50 francs more a ton than the European average, while the price of diesel and fuel oil is about 50 francs lower. The Government can also argue that the fall in world prices should have repercussions on the price of petrol.

Against this is the argument that the price cut could have waited a few weeks until the new system of calculating prices had been agreed with refineries, as some ministers argued; and that cutting petrol prices is an encouragement to use cars rather than public transport and therefore hardly consistent with the energy-saving policy.

But the Frenchman and his sacrosanct car, for which he is ready to sacrifice other items of his budget, like food, has won against all economic argument, the more so as the petrol price cut will compensate the adverse psychological effects of other increases.

These include rises in gas and electricity rates.

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Duke follows a fresh trail

From Our Correspondent, Colombo, March 3

This week's visit — concerned with elephant preservation — to Sri Lanka by the Duke of Edinburgh, the president of the World Wildlife Fund, makes a thorough contrast to royal visits of yesteryear when elephant hunts were the first item on the programme of visiting British royalty.

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Reagan told to insist on Salvador talks

From Moshin Ali, Washington, March 3

The House of Representatives is overwhelmingly approving a non-binding resolution urging President Reagan to press for "unconditional discussions" among the main political factions in El Salvador. The House vote yesterday was 396 in favour and 10 against.

The resolution said that the discussions were necessary in order to guarantee a safe and stable environment for the open democratic elections.

Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, yesterday in testimony to the House Foreign Affairs Committee declared that there was irrefutable evidence that the guerrillas in El Salvador were under external control.

He did not give details of the evidence but said it had been presented to congressional intelligence committees within the past week.

Answering questions, Mr Haig said: "The operations of guerrilla forces inside Salvador are controlled from external command control."

The Reagan Administration has previously said that Caribbean countries were confronted by a growing threat from Cuba and its new-found ally Nicaragua into El Salvador was again spreading high levels.

But Mr Haig's statement yesterday was one of the strongest official allegations yet that the insurgency

against the American-backed Government of President Duarte "is not controlled by Salvadorans."

Mr Haig, however, assured the committee that no plans to introduce American combat troops were being considered even if the March 28 elections for an assembly in El Salvador had "the worst outcome."

On the question of negotiations, Mr Haig had told the committee: "We must not be misled by the myth that the Duarte Government has refused to negotiate an end to the trouble in El Salvador with the Guerrillas."

Mr Haig added: "President Duarte has offered to negotiate on the electoral process, so that elections can proceed peacefully and the people of El Salvador can choose their own leaders without fear. The United States supports this call."

He noted that the Council of Bishops of El Salvador supported the electoral process, too, and had echoed the Government's call for all groups to desist from using violence to block the elections. The guerrillas have repeatedly refused to take part in the elections.

Mr Haig also said he expected increased guerrilla activities between now and the March 28 elections as part of a campaign to disrupt that process.

Leading article, page 13

From Paul Ellman, San Francisco, California, El Salvador, March 3

When Mr Deane Hinton, the United States Ambassador to El Salvador, visited this beleaguered provincial capital recently, he was confronted by a weeping British nun who begged him to intervene to halt the slaughter of local civilians by the security forces.

Mr Hinton, who has attracted criticism from opponents of United States policy in El Salvador, has publicly stated that he believes that the human rights situation in the country is improving. He advised President Reagan last month to certify that this was the case, as demanded by Congress as a condition for continuing aid.

However, the nun's account of her meeting with the ambassador suggests that Mr Hinton in private is pessimistic about a real improvement in the behaviour of the Salvadoran security forces towards civilians.

"I think we made it abundantly clear that there's been no progress around here", said Sister Anselm, a Swansea-born member of the Order of the Sisters of St Clare, who has worked in El Salvador for almost 10 years.

She requested a meeting with Mr Hinton after discovering the bodies of three women parishioners who had been detained by the National Guard after attending Ash Wednesday Mass.

Mr Hinton had come to San Francisco Gotera, the

Weeping nun tells of mutilations in the field



Class favourite: President Duarte with schoolchildren in La Libertad during the campaign.

capital of Marazan province, for talks with local military commanders on the situation in this region, which had seen some of the most bitter fighting of the war.

Sister Anselm asked to see the ambassador on her return from the town of Cacopera, nine miles north of here, where the three women's bodies were found in a field. Two of them were the wife and sister of a catechist, Señor Andres Perez. To attend Mass they walked 10 miles along moun-

tain trails from their home in a village deep inside territory controlled by guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

Señor Perez managed to escape from the National Guard outpost and, dressed only in his underwear, made his way back to his three children. "The body of his wife had been hideously mutilated. I knelt down by it to say a prayer but I just burst into tears," Sister Anselm said.

She said that she and the other two nuns from the convent — Sister Jean, from Port Talbot, Wales, and Sister Phyllis, from Florida — had been invited, with three Irish Franciscan priests, to meet Mr Hinton, but had declined originally because they did not want to be associated with what they regarded as a public relations exercise.

"But, I decided, in view of what happened, that it would be better to talk with the ambassador and ask him if

the United States couldn't do something. It really was a concrete example to present to him of something that goes on all the time here," Sister Anselm said. Accompanied by Sister Phyllis, she spent five minutes with Mr Hinton in a small room in the convent. "Mr Hinton said this was the sort of thing he was hearing all the time but that it was difficult for him. He reminded us that it had taken a year before the alleged killers of four American nuns were charged.



"He told us he was putting pressure on the Salvadoran military all the time, but that these people think differently," the nun said, adding that she had wept throughout the interview.

Asked to comment on this account of the meeting and the ambassador's apparently pessimistic assessment of prospects for ending excesses against the civilian population, a spokesman for the United States embassy in San Salvador said that the ambassador regarded the meeting as private.

Mr Hinton was appointed ambassador to El Salvador by President Reagan last year after the dismissal of his predecessor, Mr Robert White.

San Salvador: The ruling junta has launched a campaign to persuade people that parliamentary elections this month could help to end the war (Reuters reports).

President Duarte last night dismissed left-wing opposition charges that the present state of siege and continuing violence meant that fair elections for a constituent assembly could not be held as scheduled on March 28.

Go-between role denied by general

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 3

Lieutenant-General Peter Walls, the former Zimbabwe Army Commander, today flatly denied through his lawyers here that he had arranged meetings between representatives of the South African Government and Mr Joshua Nkomo, the former coalition partner.

The statement comes after recent allegations in Salisbury that General Walls had arranged meetings while Mr Nkomo was allegedly plotting a coup to overthrow Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister.

The former commander said that he had only met Mr Nkomo in connection with the integration of his guerrilla supporters in the Army. He added: "These were at the instance of Mr Mugabe in his capacity of Minister of Defence", to whom he had reported back.

In the past fortnight, Mr Mugabe and a senior minister have claimed that General Walls had organised two meetings between Mr Nkomo and South African military men who had dismissed his appeals for help from Pretoria in staging a coup. The minister also claimed that the general was recruiting saboteurs in South Africa for activities here.

General Walls has lived in South Africa since being barred from Zimbabwe after admitting in an interview that he had considered leading a coup to oust Mr Mugabe.

In his statement he denied planning or taking part in any activities detrimental to the Government of Zimbabwe

Carrington speaks for five nations

From Our Correspondent, Nairobi, March 3

The Western contact group is working to overcome what it regards as a misunderstanding of its proposals for a Namibian constitution, Lord Carrington, the British Foreign Secretary, said here today at the end of his African tour.

Addressing a press conference after meeting President Moi, the current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, he said the five-nation contact group was doing its best to make sure that its proposals — including a double-vote system — were properly understood.

He felt the proposals, which resemble the present West German electoral system, had been wrongly criticized as over complicated. A paper was now being prepared to answer the objections of African states.

Besides being entertained to lunch today by President Moi, Lord Carrington attended a ceremony at which the Kenyan President opened new premises for the British Council here. The Queen sent a message of good wishes on an occasion which, she said, symbolized the warm and friendly relationship between Britain and Kenya.

Earlier, Lord Carrington had signed an exchange of letters with Mr Arthur Magugu, the Kenyan Finance Minister, for the supply of 5,000 tons of wheat under the British food aid programme. It will be sold on the Kenyan market and the proceeds will be used to finance agreed development projects.

Soaring crime is blamed on American affluence

From Christopher Thomas, New York, March 3

Every city in the United States has experienced a surge in crime in the past 30 years, according to a study conducted for the Department of Justice.

It points to a surprising similarity in the rate of increase in cities that are different in location, size and minority population, and plays down the role of race and poverty in crime rates.

The North-Western University's Centre for Urban Affairs and Policy Research near Chicago spent three and a half years studying crime trends between 1948 and 1978 in every city with a population of more than 50,000, a total of 386 cities.

Dr Herbert Jacob and Dr Robert Lineberry wrote: "The growth of crime appears to be the result of fundamental changes in the lifestyles of Americans. It is the result of greater affluence which made more valuable goods available for theft, a condition aggravated by the greater propensity of Americans to leave goods unguarded in empty homes and expose themselves to dangerous

situations in travelling around their cities."

They added that it was also the consequence of the existence of a larger pool of potential offenders for reasons not well understood by criminologists. They concluded that crime had surged everywhere in the United States regardless of local efforts to stem the tide. "Whether local officials engaged in Herculean efforts or none at all, the crime wave affected their community", they said.

The report said that cities bearing no resemblance to each other had a remarkably similar rise in crime. "Both the Newark and the Housatons of the United States experienced substantial rises in their reported crime rates."

Ten cities were studied in depth. Newark, New Jersey, which has a declining population, suffered the most with a sevenfold rise in property crime and an elevenfold increase in violent crime. Property crime doubled and violent crime quadrupled in the thriving cities of San Jose and Phoenix.

Savak torture 'revived'

From Our Correspondent, Geneva, March 3

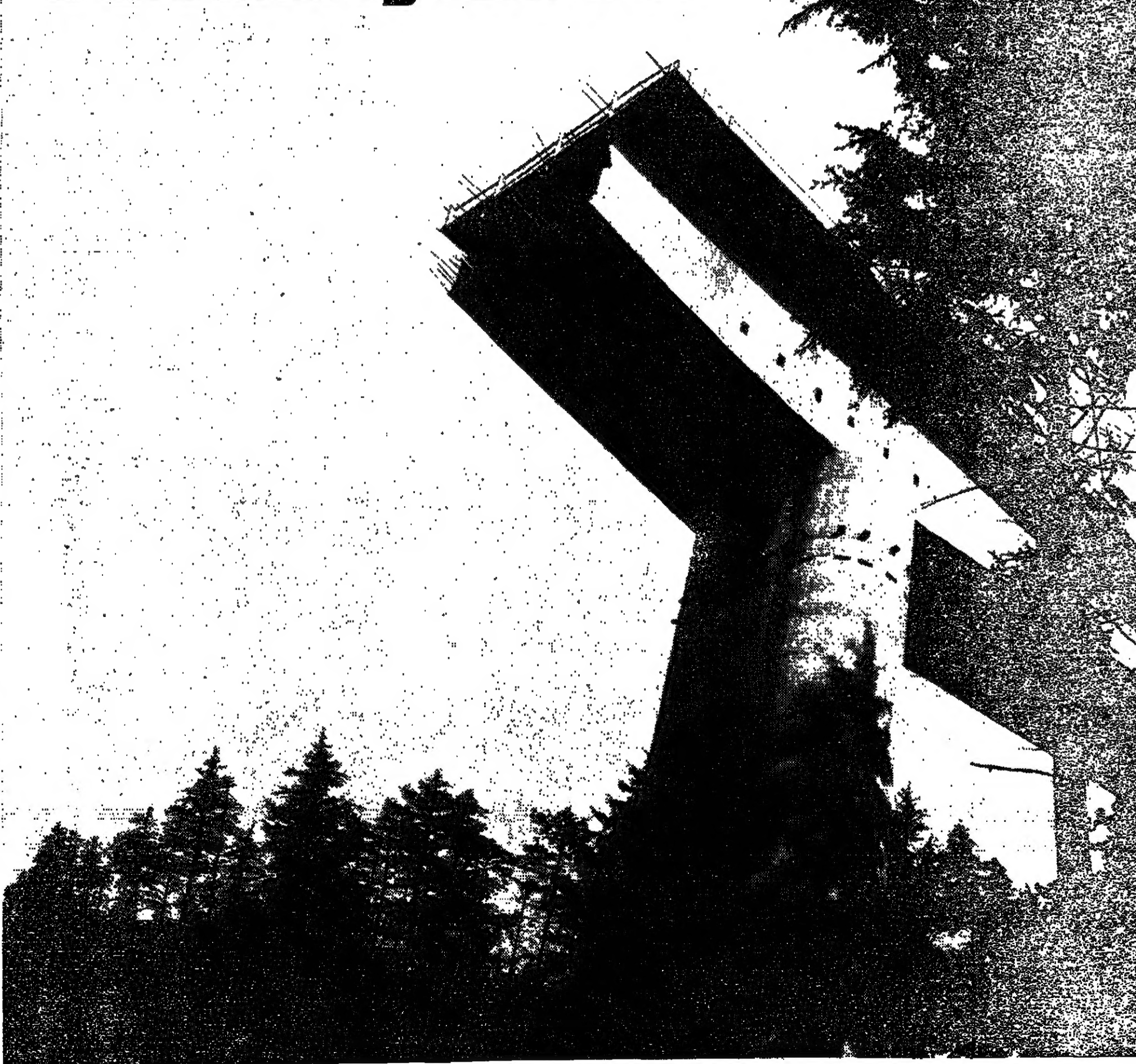
Tortures developed by Savak, the Iranian secret police of the Shah's regime, are being used on detainees in Evin prison, Tehran, according to a report submitted today to the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

"Three years ago ... no one expected the old Savak apparatus would be revived so soon or that the Pahlavi dungeons would become Isla-

mic torture chambers", the report said. It was prepared by the International Solidarity Front for Defence of the Iranian People's Democratic Rights.

"The number of Iranians killed by the Khomeini regime in the second half of last year was much higher than last year's figure of 2,596", the report said. An investigation of rights violations was called for.

What happens to your overseas contract if the money runs out?



In many overseas markets public and private capital expenditure is being cut back.

And where the axe falls on a project such as a highway or an airport, it could easily mean financial hardship for several companies along the line. Including some of our exporters.

This 'domino effect' may not yet have made your own exports any less profitable. But it is one more way in which exporting is becoming more of a risky business, where no-one can take payment for granted.

Today, the Export Credits Guarantee Department is paying out more and more on bad debts, not only from politically shaky countries, but from traditionally stable ones as well.

Recently a British engineering firm supplied construction equipment to a customer in the Middle East.

But the customer fell victim to circumstance since the orders for the plant he had received were suddenly cancelled. This meant that he in turn had to let down his own suppliers when payment fell due.

Fortunately, the British firm had covered itself with ECGD, and was reimbursed to the tune of 90% of its losses.

ECGD offers a full credit insurance service which covers you for non-payment on exports of goods or services, worldwide — no matter whether it's the customer or the country that fails.

But this is by no means the Department's only service to exporters.

For example, ECGD can also open up sources of cheap export finance, by giving cover direct to a financing bank.

If you're exporting anywhere in the world, however safe it may seem, you should at least find out what ECGD has to offer.

Call Joan Swales on 01-606 6699, or contact one of our regional offices in Glasgow, Manchester, Belfast, Birmingham, Leeds, Cambridge, Bristol, Croydon or City of London.

Because if the worst ever comes to the worst, why should you end up paying for your own exports?

ECGD
EXPORT WITH CONFIDENCE

THE ARTS

THE BARBICAN OPENS: John Russell Taylor views the first exhibition

Human survivors

Aftermath: France 1945-54
Art Gallery

A comparison between last year's Barbican exhibition *Paris-Paris* and its offshoot *Aftermath*, the opening exhibition at the brand-new Barbican Centre gallery (until June 13) is very illuminating of what was in Paris and what goes on, or is going to go on, in London. For, as was to be brought over the Paris show, what finally emerges is a new and very different show, with a handful of pieces in common. The Paris show, though allegedly covering the period 1937-57, was mainly concerned with the postwar scene, and in that with the central role of Paris and its progression towards its last moment of glory, with the abstract art of De Staël, Georges Mathieu and others, and before the crown of world leadership in art was snatched by New York. Now all those abstract artists, though still names in France (and gradually emerging from the shadowy side of fashion everywhere), would mean little in Britain today — not to mention the British bias against the non-figurative. So instead the organizers of *Aftermath*, Germain Viatte and Sarah Wilson (one French, one British, you note), have turned away from the Ecole de Paris, and in general from the abstract, to concentrate instead on the survivors and the outsiders, most of whom were concerned one way and another with the great humanist, or at least human, themes.

Hence De Staël is represented by just one painting, a semi-abstract

called *La Vie dure* (which one suspects is there more for its title than anything else). Other abstract artists are quite absent, or dragged in somehow through connections with surrealism or some real or fancied use of the abstract as a sort of psychodrama in which human anguish, agony and horror (nothing there) are represented by abstractions because too painful to approach directly through representations. The argument is, well, arguable, but it does not prevent the show itself from being thoroughly exciting and thought-provoking. We are taken carefully through from the generally unregarded French realists of the Thirties, people like André Fournier and Francis Gruber, and shown what they were doing after the war. We are reminded that several great masters who never deserted representation completely — Picasso, Matisse, Braque, Léger, even Bonnard — were still active. And so to the real centre of this show: the Art Brut movement, with its deliberate harking back to primitive art, child-art and psychotic art, and its attempt to find and define "new images of Man".

Dubuffet naturally figures prominently here, and it must be said that, represented by a few of his works (that may be the key, for in large numbers they become very monotonous), cunningly placed in context like this, he has seldom looked better. Some strange anticipations are also traced up to earth-realist painting by Zoltan Kemeny from as early as 1947, some astonishing paintings done by Stuart Gilbert in Dublin in the early Forties, which seem to relate to nothing anywhere around. And the



Léger's "Les Loisirs": a master still then active

sense of a group of disparate artists all for the moment going the same way is strongly created.

The exhibition certainly does not show, or even claim to show, the one central way of approaching art in the postwar decade, in Paris or anywhere else. Rather, it proposes a group of surprisingly accessible artists and attitudes to us for our consideration and, with any luck, enjoyment. The exercise is persuasive: the unfamiliar are related tellingly to the familiar — as usual, Picasso is the inclusive figure in whom clues to everything else can somehow be found — and great isolated figures like Balthus can at

last be seen to have a context (the not least in the work of his writer-brother Pierre Klossowski). Mathieu's calligraphic action-painting is included with a couple of his more bearable early works, and even, at the other end of the spectrum, the dread Bernard Buffet, though mercifully not with emaciated blue clowns. The gallery itself turns out, despite what must have been feared from published plans and projections, a rather pleasant, manageable space on two floors. This, it appears, is largely by dint of covering almost entirely the architects' original concept.

Another Country

Queen's

Do not be misled by Julian Mitchell's title, as this brilliant writer's study of the English public school life in the 1930s relates directly to the old moles who are still coming up out of the English soil.

Another Country is about the self-governing hierarchy from prefects to fags which famously marks its survivors for life. It has much in common with the Army system of handing out crude disciplinary duties to the Other Ranks; but Mr Mitchell concentrates with single-minded venom on the closed institution of his choice, leaving it to the spectator to make the connexion with other British authoritarian structures.

With the exception of a Walter Pater-quoting uncle (illustrating what the system has done to the previous generation), the cast consists entirely of the boys. They respond to every demand of response from total militaristic acceptance of the rules to structured political defiance. Plenty of room, you might think, for any kind of boy to make his own terms with silly old placed were it not for the fact that the first event in the play is the suicide of a boy due to be expelled for homosexuality.

This calamity is quite enough to generate a plot

whose main business is to explore the frustrations, desires and hatreds of a miscellaneous collection of people who are receiving their basic training in the art of personal concealment. The instant effect of the death is to provoke a purge in the house in which the Head Prefect (a gentlemanly liberal) cracks, leaving the way open for the appalling Fowler played by Michael Parkhouse as a baby-faced Mussolini) to succeed him: a move that is finally frustrated also at the expense of the two characters you most want to assume control.

These are Bennett and Judd, who embody the two dominant forms of rebellion against the public school ethic. Bennett is a serious, and unashamed homosexual, at first seen training binoculars on his beloved through the library window. Judd is an inflammable Marxist, driven mad by the incessant interruptions that prevent him from getting on with his chosen line of research. Very cunningly, Mr Mitchell introduces both of them as mere boys. Bennett, hair flapping over his eyes as he moons over his unsuitable partner, seems merely to be going through a phase. Judd, shooting off about self-perpetuating oligarchies and playing the barrack-room lawyer to the officious Fowler, seems really in the grip of adolescent bigotry.

As the play develops and the spectator becomes a

temporary captive in its little world, so the characters become increasingly formidable. Judd may be a Stalinist, but you cannot fault his arguments against the school, or his incorruptible resistance to joining the officer class. Bennett occupies an even stronger position. To be a Communist in a fee-paying school for the rich is a joke. But homosexuality is no joke in that setting; and when Bennett is sentenced to a thrashing for sabotaging a Cadet Force parade (by a court of prefects ludicrously strutting round in OTC uniform), he escapes by insolently threatening to reveal a full list of his sex partners. In that future scenario there is no defence against someone who is prepared to spill the beans.

There have been some cast changes in Stuart Burge's production since its appearance at Greenwich; and one of these enables me to salute Kenneth Branagh (Judd) as a stunningly accomplished new actor, whose ideological raggedness, control of sulphurous parody, and moments of reluctant warmth are alone worth the price of the show. He has a magnificently feeble partner in Rupert Everett, who as the production as a whole is an extraordinary triumph of juvenile casting. Bernard Cribbins' revolting sets reveal the cramped, seedy quarters within the baronial facade.

Irving Wardle

Interview: Roy Hudd

The image of Bud Flanagan

Roy Hudd's conversation is a bizzard of jokes, references to jokes and evangelistic fervour about the comedy tradition. He thrusts his face into yours, the better to convince you of the fabulous riches of music hall and of course to try out the occasional new gag.

He has millions of gags, but his favourites are all timeless yet topical, anarchic yet relying on a common cultural fund. They tend to prove his credo — that comedy never changes, that there is nothing new behind the footlights — and they never will be Monty Python and the Goons are the descendants of Dan Leno and Grimaldi, while Hudd himself inherits the mairies of Max Miller and Bud Flanagan.

So it is only appropriate that from tonight he plays the latter as the Prince of Wales in *Underneath the Arches*, a biography of the team of Flanagan and Chesney Allen. The show was evolved for the Chichester Festival by Patrick Garland and Brian Claville, though it was Hudd himself who came up with the idea of using the original sketches to hear the narrative. And, mysteriously, it was Flanagan who first cast Hudd.

"I really have no idea why. I only met him casually two or three times. Really I knew his music better — but don't tell Bud — and I was talking to her some time after he had died and she told me he had hoped one day I would play him." Perhaps Flanagan had detected within Hudd the obsessive fascination with variety and music hall which had been imprinted by early childhood trips to the theatre with his grandmother.

"My earliest memories are of a man in a great big floral

suit — Max Miller — then a man in a fur coat and a boater — that was Bud — and then of a panto at Croxford where the backcloth showed the road leading up to the castle. I could never understand why characters leaving the stage to go to the castle didn't actually go up that road."

Those images have inspired Hudd to become an expert on variety and music hall. The names, the gags and the songs pepper his conversation on almost any subject. But it is not scholarship; it is merely a celebratory identification with the way his genda soumates survived in the business. "People are always getting down about comedy. It's simple for me. If it gets a laugh it's in, if it doesn't it's out, however funny I think it is."

In the case of Flanagan the trick which lifted mere survival to real success was the rapid change of mood. In a sentence the audience's required response was switched from belly laugh to



Hudd as Flanagan

sentimental tear. It represents a peculiarly English combination of dissolute bawdy and maudlin camaraderie. Hudd identifies this talent as the prime characteristic which set Flanagan apart in his days. "He was always the master of the reveals."

If that quality, combined with Christopher Timothy's Chesney Allen, succeeds as it did at Chichester, Hudd would like to be able to look forward to a run of about a year at the Prince of Wales, his optimum time for keeping an interest in the part. He reckons the 18 months for which he played Fagin in *Oliver* was just about six months too long. But live theatre is essential to him.

"I hate television. The great thing is a live audience. In television the only kick-back is the money. In theatre the audience. The magic might all be over in one night, but life's like that."

Now Hudd looks set to become a kind of mandarin of comedy, a fast-talking, lapel-grabbing practical historian of its modes and vocabulary. He takes deep satisfaction from its changeless quality, as if that in itself were a joke at the expense of the idea that every gag has to be new to get a laugh.

"The standard jokes come back again and again. I knew a writer who heard that Liberace was retiring. He rang me up in the morning and asked what he should do with his tea-chest full of Liberace jokes. A while later he rang again and said it was all okay — he could use them all about Larry Grayson."

Bryan Appleyard

Concerts

Symphony living in the past

RLPO/Janowski

Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool

Gone are the days when a conductor spent enough time to impose his musical style on the RLPO — conductors nowadays are encouraged to travel the world. The RLPO is lucky to get Janowski: he did good work at Dortmund, bringing an impressive *Lulu* to Leeds, and he has made some fine records, including the start of a highly promising *Ring*. In Liverpool on Tuesday he conducted the British premiere of Erich Korngold's *Symphony in F sharp major*, a virtuosic piece of orchestral confectionery composed 32 years ago in America (where

Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra announced the appointment of Marek Janowski as their principal conductor and artistic adviser from September 1983, in succession to David Atherton who only assumed that role two years ago. It is not long enough for Atherton to make his presence beneficially felt, nor will Janowski spend enough time to impose his musical style on the RLPO — conductors nowadays are encouraged to travel the world.

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gave an impression of whole-

ness, of steady evolution not found in all accounts of this. The second movement is similar to the first in the impression it finally leaves. Hence, the baritone solo in the following movement, "Lord, make me to know," is a welcome landmark.

Mr Allen made a fine impression with this, as did Miss Buchanan in the tender fifth movement. "And ye now therefore have sorrow," whose concluding fugato Sir George worked up with almost as much intensity as the fugue which occurs in the third movement.

Notwithstanding its march-like character, the loud

Korngold was busy writing film music).

The symphony is a well-made piece as can be expected (Kempere recorded it a decade ago), well varied in mood and texture, elegant in long, sumptuous melodies, which begin momentarily, then gradually trail away into something less memorable.

Korngold was a child-prodigy composer in Vienna during the First World War, when his operas attracted lively attention, more for good tunes than for credible drama. I was glad to hear this valid performance under Janowski, but would much rather hear him and the RLPO in some music more closely governed by the composer's pen.

Korngold's symphony describes 1950 in terms of 1910. Poor boy, he never grew up.

William Mann

choral outbursts, and new allegro theme in B flat major at the world. The ransomed of the Lord shall return," the second movement is similar to the first in the impression it finally leaves. Hence, the baritone solo in the following movement, "Lord, make me to know," is a welcome landmark.

Mr Allen made a fine impression with this, as did Miss Buchanan in the tender fifth movement. "And ye now therefore have sorrow," whose concluding fugato Sir George worked up with almost as much intensity as the fugue which occurs in the third movement.

Max Harrison

Television

Sense of occasion

I dropped in on Nancy Astor (BBC 2) for the first time last night in order to find out if serials in nine parts make any sense when you have missed the first three: the quick answer of course is that they make neither more nor less sense than pretty much the same. Our heroine is already married, betrayed, divorced, the pert mama of two substantial children, gloomily keeping house for Daddy in Virginia. What you need, said Daddy, is to leave the land of *Rainbow Country* and *Come with the Wind* and go to England, home of *Lillie* and *Jennie, The Duchess of Duke Street*, and the nice but naughty king.

He did not put it quite like that, of course, but that is where Nancy and her sister Phyl fetched up, and those of us who had been lagging up to this point felt immediately at home for it is a country that even those who claim never to watch television at all know well. Clipped remarks emerge from under motionless hats. Couples whirl round the floor at soirées; eyes roll and tongues clack among those whose cards are not filled, who must watch from the edge. Margot Asquith swoops from

the higher branches like a bird of prey and all lower-class villains, carrying pencil and pad, are employed by the *Daily Mail*. Upper-class villains are usually Harry Cust, a convention honoured, like all the others here. "What are you reading?" asked Phyl of her sister. "Who's Who." It was the same for us all.

Like many outrageous films, *Nancy* is obsessed by betrayal — until, that is, she meets Waldorf Astor (James Fox), which finally happened here. Being both very rich and very good, and unlikely to spend his or her money on cigarettes and drink, Waldorf is ideal and, by the end, she had said Yes. Cliveden here we come. But the show was mad to turn down Lord Revelstoke (Julian Glover) but, with the humourless Mrs Grenfell glaring in the background and Cust stirring the pot, she had to go and feel betrayed again. Mr Glover played with majestic conviction, but the distinguished work on *Nancy Astor* is that of the designer, Tim Harvey, who alone has scrubbed a few clichés off the genre and given the interiors and the clothes a hand-tinted photographic quality. Slightly vulgar but marvellously right as a view of the Edwardian

Michael Ratcliffe

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Entertainments Guide

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Henry Kissinger on how the West failed to meet the oil challenge

The energy crisis which began dramatically in 1973 altered irrevocably the world as it had grown up in the post-war period. The seemingly inexorable rise in prosperity was abruptly reversed. Simultaneously, inflation ran like a forest fire through the industrialized countries and recession left millions unemployed.

Transcending even the economic revolution was the emergence of oil as a weapon of political blackmail. The industrial democracies saw imposed on them not only an economic upheaval but fundamental changes in their social cohesion and political life.

As the new decade began, world conditions of supply and demand shifted inexorably against the consumers. The dimensions of the change were not immediately apparent. The illusion persisted that one was watching commercial bargaining and not a revolutionary upheaval.

The proximate cause was the overthrow in September 1969 of the pro-Western King Idris of Libya by the radical Colonel Muammar Gaddafi. (It must be stressed that the price explosion was not a personal decision; one way or another market conditions would have produced a price explosion, though perhaps over a longer period of time). Until then the dominant role among the oil-producing countries was played by essentially conservative governments whose interest in increasing their oil revenues was balanced by their dependence on the industrial democracies for protection against external (and perhaps even internal) threats. Gaddafi was free of such inhibitions. An avowed radical, he set out to extirpate Western influence. He did not care if in the process he weakened the global economy.

The working level of the United States Government, especially in the State Department, operated on the romantic view that Third World radicalism was really frustrated Western liberalism. Third World leaders, they believed, had become extremist because the West had backed conservative regimes, because we did not understand their reformist aspirations, because their societies were backward and eager for change — for every reason, in fact, other than the most likely: ideological commitment to the implacable anti-Western doctrines they were espousing.

I did not, in Nixon's first term, take an initiating role in Middle Eastern policy. There were desultory discussions in the Washington Special Actions Group (WSAG) on what attitude to take toward the new Libyan regime. In a meeting of November 24, 1969, I raised the question whether to have the 40 Committee (The inter-agency committee supervising covert intelligence activities) canvass the possibility of covert action. A study was prepared of economic and political pressure points on Libya; but the agencies did not have their heart in it. All options involving action were rejected. According to the bureaucratic consensus, our only choice was to try to get along with Gaddafi.

Whereas America was deciding on passivity, Western Europe chose actively to curry favour with Libya's radical ruler. As is often the case, decisions

The Sunday Times serialization from the Kissinger memoirs continues this weekend with When God Called Chairman Mao.



Happiness is a country flowing with oil: Prince Fahd and Shaikh Yamani of Saudi Arabia in close conversation at an Opec meeting in Algiers in 1975

Oil: the blackmail weapon that changed the world

that seemed prudent and restrained when they were made have come to appear reckless to posterity. In the cause of short-term economic prudence the West accepted Gaddafi's revolution — and this, as it turned out, was bound to affect also the West's political relations with the conservative oil producers.

Libya taught these rulers a fearful lesson: the industrial democracies would not protect friendly governments so long as their radical, avowedly hostile successors did not challenge the democracies' access to oil. Hence, there was no point in seeking to buy Western goodwill by restraint on oil prices or anything else. For a year or two, the occasion to apply this insight did not arise. But as market conditions changed, it subtly affected the attitudes of even the moderate governments.

Thus did the political balance also shift, just as market conditions were transforming the economic equilibrium. Radical Libya then triggered a process by which the host governments gradually discovered, and began to exercise, their dominant power over the world oil market.

There were three discernible stages in the revolution about to unfold: first, a creeping increase in prices; then the host governments' gradual, *de facto* takeover of ownership and operational control from the oil companies; and finally the resulting ability of the producer governments to link the sale of oil to political conditions, especially the Arab-Israeli conflict.

At the beginning of 1970, Libya demanded larger oil revenues from the companies operating on its soil. Libya picked on the most vulnerable link in the chain, the independent company Occidental Petroleum, and imposed production cutbacks on it more severe than those on its competitors. It was the first time a producing country had implemented what amounted to an embargo.

The majors in turn demonstrated their shortsightedness by letting an inconvenient competitor twist slowly, slowly in the wind, to use a phrase of a

later era, rejecting any measures of support to compensate Occidental for the costs of the cutback. Isolated and vulnerable, Occidental yielded to Libyan blackmail on September 4, 1970, agreeing to an immediate increase of 30 cents a barrel, rising to 40 cents over five years. The other companies soon followed suit.

At this stage, the economic impact of these settlements was less significant than the political implications. Heretofore the oil companies, bargaining as a unit, had imposed a unified price. Now the united front of the companies had been split, shattering one of the buffers between the producing and consuming countries. This set up a

with a vengeance, forging an efficient cartel willing to reduce its production contrary to the historical practice of almost all its members.

At last the United States Government began to take an interest. It was urged on by the oil companies, which followed their time-honoured pattern of asking for assistance only at the last moment, and then on *ad hoc*, not for a long-term strategy — which they feared would lead to government control. They asked for, and received, dispensation from the Department of Justice so that a united front of the companies would not be treated as a violation of anti-trust laws. At the urgent request of the companies, Under Secretary of State John M. Irwin II was dispatched to the Middle East on January 16, 1971, to urge moderation on the oil-producing nations.

Irwin proudly reported to the President on January 25 that in the three countries he had visited (Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait), he had stressed that we would follow our tradition of not becoming involved in the details of commercial negotiations — neatly removing the one fear that might have moderated producer demands: the threat of United States governmental intervention. If confrontation was to be avoided and if our government would not involve itself in the details, the preordained outcome was that the companies must yield.

Our hands-off policy ordained the result: the companies yielded. They accepted "separate" but "concurrent" negotiations, an elegant phrase for falling in with the leapfrog tactics of the producers. The upshot was the Tehran agreement of February 14, 1971, which amounted to an increase of around 40 cents a barrel for the Persian Gulf; and the Tripoli agreement of April 2, which not unexpectedly led to an even larger price rise for Libya.

Both producing groups agreed to maintain this level for five years — a solemn promise that must hold a world record in the scale and speed of its violation. Opec put forth a demand.

for "equity participation" in the companies. This was creeping nationalization. Quickly the negotiations on participation turned into a mirror image of the talks on price. An initial concession produced not agreement but escalating demands. The market seemed to provide no ceiling to producer exactions. And the companies were much more interested in raising their compensation than in diminishing participation.

For three years, a new infrastructure had been elaborated by the oil-producing nations built on the weakness and irresolution of the consumers. Free-market theology had kept the consumer governments, and especially the United States, out of negotiations as the companies were rendered defenceless. Political demands had become mingled with economics.

When Western Hemisphere oil could no longer replace imports from the Arab world, the threat of a production cut-off by Opec suddenly turned into a crucial weapon. The October war put a triumphal arch over this structure.

On October 16 Opec abandoned the creeping increase of oil prices in favour of a dramatic rise, and the Arab members of Opec, agreed to cut their oil production. These production cuts, whatever their political rationale, in fact sustained the higher price and laid the basis for even more dramatic increases.

The hesitant reaction of the consuming nations compounded their difficulties. Their reluctance to cooperate with one another perpetuated their vulnerability, virtually guaranteeing a permanent crisis.

The beginning of wisdom for an oil strategy should have been solidarity among all major consumer nations. That was prevented by six months of transatlantic tensions now magnified by the panic triggered by the price rises, production cutbacks, and embargo. No European government took up our offer of private exchanges on energy cooperation. They missed no opportunity to dissociate from our Middle East diplomacy. By December 1973,

we were being told that some of our allies were asking for preferential treatment from the Arabs for having disavowed our Middle East policy. We could never confirm all these allegations but they were too numerous not to have a foundation. It was not due to this finer moments of allied relations.

The Opec ministers in Tehran on December 22-23 boosted the oil price from \$5.12 a barrel to \$11.65 a barrel — an increase of 128 per cent, on top of the 70 per cent October increase.

It is now obvious that this decision was one of the pivotal events in the history of this century. Even now, the domestic political implications are still working themselves out. What happens when young men and women leave school and college to find their skills rejected and join the millions thrown out of work since the oil crisis? The way is open for demagoguery, political polarization, and violence.

As for the developing nations, if it was ever true that economic aid was necessary to prevent the division of our planet into the few who were rich and the many who were poor, if the maintenance of peace required us to try to close the gap, then the oil price rise worked marvelously to defeat these objectives. One's compassion is perhaps tempered with impatience at the quiescence with which they accepted the exactions of the oil producers and rallied instead against their fellow victims in the West. This reflects either helplessness or decrepit ideology.

Never before in history has a group of such relatively few nations been able to impose with so little protest such a dramatic change in the way of life of the overwhelming majority of the rest of mankind. The poetic justice, if such it is, is that this "achievement" threatens their own stability, a perception that may be gradually dawning. Few political structures can sustain the accelerated rate of growth made possible by such an enormous transfer of wealth. Dislocations are bound to occur.

The upheaval in Iran in the late 1970s was at once a caricature and a warning. The overheated economic development made possible by the price increases provoked an elemental reaction that rejected the very materialistic values that gave rise to the rapid growth; the end result was, ironically, the systematic impoverishment of the country. Nor is internal convulsion the only threat to producing nations. The economic enfeeblement of the industrial democracies may yet cause much of the oil states' material equities to evaporate like a mirage. For a financial crisis in the West would destroy also the producers' investments in those countries. Or if the West proves economically unable to sustain the role of military protector in the Persian Gulf — or loses its incentive to do so on behalf of nations systematically undermining the world economy — then many of the oil producers may become easy pickings for foreign predators.

Thus the producers' dilemma approaches a joke played by history on those who would seek to force its pace. If they spend their exactions too rapidly, they risk domestic upheaval; if they hoard them, they court a weakening of the international economic system and a point where they too become victims.

© Henry A. Kissinger, 1982

Ronald Butt

Listen to the candid friends

What is most striking about a collection of papers assessing the Government's economic performance, just published by the Institute of Economic Affairs under the general title "Could do better" is that the criticisms of those who support the Government's general position are incomparably more convincing than those who oppose it.

For the opponents, Professor Richard Layard of the London School of Economics and an economic adviser to the SDP, is convinced that the cardinal error has been the Government's insistence on fighting inflation without an incomes policy, which has resulted in unemployment rising much more than it otherwise would have done. Yet he is forced to recognize that a conventional incomes policy is politically impracticable and also economically distorting (SDP leaders please note) and he therefore advocates a wage inflation tax levied on employers who give wage increases above a norm. He would exclude central and local government but include nationalized industries — which raises the weird vision of Sir Peter Parker (say) giving way to Aslef or Sir Derek Ezra for yielding to the miners.

Still, it is at least a suggestion. Professor Mary Colledge, London, a past adviser to Labour ministers, argues that the Government's cardinal error has been to ignore the role of money wages in determining the economy. But he is content to observe (with Mrs Thatcher) that productivity is at the heart of our difficulties and leave us with the thought that the issues are really political and not economic at all, taking sides with the non-consensus politics of both Labour extremists and the present government.

Which brings me to the £9,000m boost for the economy proposed by Mr Peter Shore in his alternative Budget before I discuss the more constructive criticisms of the Government's economic supporters. To create jobs, Mr Shore advocates public capital spending; cutting the National Insurance surcharge and other taxes; lowering interest rates and a cheap pound. However, the inflationary consequences of such a package can hardly be ignored even by a Labour shadow Chancellor not yet constrained by economic reality.

Mr Shore's answer to inflation seems to be stringent government control at home; protectionism; and an attempt to work out a general understanding on wage restraint and cost control with the unions.

He dare not breathe the words "incomes policy" (as he virtually admits) but we all know that this is what he means: back to George Brown and the National Plan, and back to Wilson/Callaghan and the Social Contract — but this time with a much heavier dependence on protection and a socialist siege economy.

All this could be made to work at a price. What we should be clear about is that the greater the expansionist boost provided by a Labour government, the greater would be the necessity for a rigidly controlled society if Weimar-type inflation was to be avoided. Expansion (probably only temporary) would be bought at a price to liberty that no previous Labour government has been willing to pay. That, of course, is Mr Healey's, Mr Shore's and Mr Hattersley's problem (and for all I know, Professor Peston's), though it is plainly no problem for Mr Benn.

So let us return to the critics among the Government's supporters. The most enthusiastic contributor to the Institute of Economic Affairs symposium is Professor Richard Stapleton of the Manchester Business School. He believes that the Government, in macro-economic terms, is on the way to an economic miracle. Yet he is also in doubt that, at the micro-economic level, the Government could do much more to help get the conditions right for entrepreneurship and growth.

Professor Stapleton believes that the Government could do much more to help growth by further financial guarantees to assist the take-off of new firms; by improving the tax position of new businesses and by insisting that firms contribute to an insurance fund to pay for necessary redundancies.

Above all, he advocates encouraging share ownership as the real alternative to union power. This comes near to the heart of the matter. The Government will only "bear" unreasonable union power by passing it on to the workers; it means action by the government in giving workers a share in their companies.

The point is clearly grasped by a number of Conservative backbenchers who are wholly on the side of Mrs Thatcher's "dry" macro-economics, but who also believe (more so, curiously, than many "wets") that she should do more to draw on the spirit that moved the National Freight Union and should do so before the election if it is to have the chance of the second term.

Mr Peter Horden, for instance, a senior Tory backbencher specializing in economic and financial matters, is convinced that it would be possible for the Government to bring in a short Bill in this Parliament allowing workers to buy shares in their firms on the same basis that council tenants can buy houses — say at a 30 per cent discount which would depend on the shares being held for a term of years.

He argues that it is morally right as well as expedient to move in this direction; that workers should have a stake in the organization to which they give their working lives; that it is wrong that share prices are so overwhelmingly determined by the operations of financial institutions whose operations often have little reference to the business realities of a particular company. What is more, a market with more private investors, gradually achieved by worker share-owning, would help prevent some of the more meaningless market fluctuations.

Such arguments from "dry" Tories are much more impressive and constructive criticism of government policy than the demands of "wets" who want only to buy another term of office with blanket expansion, and never mind the inflationary deluge to come. The Government would be wise to accept that it has the capacity to do better; listen to the friends of its macro-economic policy, and remember that to be "dry" does not oblige it to be hard or rigid. It needs the workers on its side in an industrial democracy; if it does not get them there in this parliament, the SDP will do its best to win them, on precisely such issues, in the next.

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Poetry and profanity puzzle Melina Mercouri

Andrew Wilson, associate editor of The Observer, has offered Melina Mercouri, the Greek minister of culture, £100 to help finance readings of modern Greek poetry on tape. Mercouri's response, as relayed by the Greek paper Ta Nea, has bureaucratic inertia written all over it. "Without having established the proper procedure for this project," she says, "we cannot accept."

It is scarcely encouraging to hear that the new Socialist government, which prides itself on eliminating censorship, is even now withholding permission for the release of a recording from Paris Tacopoulos's Keri Diathiki, an explicitly satirical and eccentrically onomatopoeic work, imitating the language of the New Testament.

Tacopoulos published the text in 1973, when Greece was ruled by colonels who would best up writers for daring to say that Ancient Greek notables practised homosexuality. A recording of excerpts, vested with quasi-Byzantine music and wailing, had been waiting for government sanction for a month, and Tacopoulos has now been told that unless he can "explain" apparent profanities permission will be withheld.

Wilson, who would just like to hear modern Greek literature with the proper rhythms, points out that even Odysseus Elydis's great poem *Axon Esti*, on the strength of which he won the 1979 Nobel prize might be objected to on similar grounds.

THE TIMES DIARY

Few solicitors become the heroes of comic strips. David Tench, legal officer of the Consumers' Association, makes his debut in the role in the new issue of Which? published today. The trip is called *Legal Eagle*, a term originally coined, I am told, by Groucho Marx, and by which Tench was known while legal

Tower power

Richard Seifert is the name associated with most of the modern office blocks PHS has called to mind when forced to — but when it comes to designing a memorial to the modern movement the tower-raiser in chief is put to shame by a team of unknown youngsters from Leytonstone.

Admittedly they were only building in Lego bricks, but it was no mean achievement for three recent students of Bristol University to beat teams from many of the best-known architectural practices in London. Among the vanquished, along with Seifert, were the Ronald Fielding Partnership, who provided the Royal Prince's Palace in Saudi Arabia and Yorke Rosenberg Mardall, who have done their bit at Gatwick Airport and the Wellington and St Thomas's Hospital.

The winner in a competition organized by the Building Centre — Trevor Colman, Daryl Murphy and Dinah Aldam — constructed a

modular man holding aloft a symbolic relic. Unsuccessful entries included a toilet adorned with graffiti, a toilet roll holder, and a tombstone.

Interviewed on Radio 4's *World at One* yesterday about the English cricketers' tour of South Africa, Ken Turner, secretary of Nottinghamshire, said: "The question of South Africa has been the nigger in the woodpile."

Waugh scoop

Today's issue of The Times Literary Supplement reveals the early life of Charles Ryder, long before he visited Brideshead. Ryder by Castiglione, which the TLS prints today, is the forgotten first chapter of a projected novel which Evelyn Waugh intended to call *Charles Ryder's School Days*.

It was rediscovered by chance in the offices of Waugh's literary agents, A. D. Peters, Seawing Waugh's 1970 file for evidence about a contract with Eyre

and well-supported by Connie Booth, but the piece had mixed reviews. Michael Coveney's unkind notice in the *Financial Times* concluded, "a real lulu". With considerable spirit the management promptly stuck the phrase up as a quote on a billboard at the door.

Still no oppo

In 1980, when Sally Oppenheim went to Paris as British Minister for Consumer Affairs, there was no opposite number in the French government to greet her. Now that the Socialist French Minister for Consumer Affairs, Catherine Lalumière, is repaying the visit, Oppenheim, the light of British consumerism, is in the naughty governmental world, has just extinguished herself by resigning for family reasons. Mrs Thatcher shows no sign of replacing her.

Bad figures

The news that the SDP team came 15th of 16 in a computerized competition at running the economy will scarcely surprise. Unformulated policies are bound to cause some vacillation.

The Conservatives did even worse. They came last in a contest at Kingston Polytechnic in which teams from the political parties North, came tenth, but discouragingly for all home economists the winners were sixth formers from the Lycée Français in Kensington.

PHS



Methuen, one of the staff found inside a 12,500 word typescript. Waugh's diaries reveal that in 1945 he started writing a novel about school life just after the First World War. No-one knows why it was never finished, or how this introductory chapter, which reads as a self-contained short story, came to be where it was found.

House unfurl

I regret, since I enjoyed it to report that the play in which Leo McKern made an overdue return to the West End — Frank D. Gilroy's *The Housekeeper*, directed by Tom Court, at the Apollo — is to close within a matter of days. McKern is at his irascible best,



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

MUZZLING IRA GUNS

Since the days of the Fenians the United States of America has been a copious source of moral and material support for the British. At some of the more crucial stages of the struggle that led up to the 1921 de Valera truce, the IRA found more opportunity to be on the side of the Atlantic than at home. The Provisional IRA in its turn has cultivated the America assiduously. It is now the IRA's turn to be muzzled by the American authorities, the urgent pleas of successive prime ministers of the Irish Republic, and consistent discouragement by respectable leaders of the Irish community in America.

Although the hunger strike and self-inflicted deaths of republican prisoners in Northern Ireland last summer fired anti-British sentiment in the United States, and although the money raised into the IRA's coffers by the collapse of the hunger strike in the face of the British Government's steady and

clearly justified resolve has created space in which apologists for the discharge of Britain's responsibilities in Northern Ireland can make themselves heard. At the same time the American law enforcement agencies have been having some successes in their watch on IRA gun-running activities, including charges brought by the FBI of a conspiracy to ship weapons to the IRA by four Irish Americans, one of whom was a director of the IRA. The case is now coming to court. One can only speculate as to the effect of these successes on the ability of the IRA to maintain its supplies of arms and ammunition from the United States. But the potential can be measured against the facts, or rather the estimates put together from intelligence sources, that half the weapons coming illegally into Northern Ireland in 1980-81 are believed to have passed through the United States, and that the proportion coming into the hands of the Provisional IRA from that source was rather more than half. That is much the most important source of supply. Next are thefts from arsenals, dealers or other persons in the British Isles; then homemade weapons; and only then weapons manufactured in the eastern bloc.

These set-backs for the IRA have been matched by similar

reverses in both parts of Ireland. The Royal Ulster Constabulary acting on a much improved flow of intelligence, including that from informers, has made a significant number of arrests leading to serious charges. Arms and explosives in unusually large quantities have also been uncovered on both sides of the border. It would be tempting providence, and contrary to experience, to draw from these encouraging developments any firm conclusion about the IRA's operational capacity in the near future. The attempted murder of the other day of the Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland is a chilling reminder that a well-founded terrorist organization can always strike so long as it remains in the field.

How long it remains in the field depends much on the degree of harassment to which it is subjected by the forces of law. It depends even more on the terrorists' will to struggle on, which is in turn governed by their hopes of success. The fact that people are informing more freely against the IRA is one that must damage those hopes. The new Irish government, when it is formed, and Mr Prior with his new initiative, when he is ready, have a duty to be alert in what they do to anything that might cause those hopes to revive.

WHEN THE KILLING HAS TO STOP

The vote in the House of Representatives in Washington in favour of negotiations between the two sides in El Salvador is an indication of the opposition that is building up to United States policy in the region. Negotiations of this sort are widely seen as a possible way of ending the bloodshed in El Salvador. They were recently given public backing by President Lopez Portillo of Mexico, who offered his country's services as a mediator. But they have so far been refused by the ruling junta in El Salvador as being a capitulation to the guerrillas, and this refusal has been supported by the Reagan administration.

It is natural that the United States should be concerned about signs of communist subversion and do what it can to counter them. All those who believed that an American retreat from Indochina would usher in a new era of independence and happiness for Cambodia and Laos, as well as Vietnam, might remember the terrible sequel.

But there is a difference between totalitarian communist-Marxist movements encouraged or even directed from outside and indigenous pluralist movements which have a left-wing colouring but are basically coalitions of revolt against the corrupt exercise of power. The rhetoric from Washington is close to suggesting that all leftist movements are implanted in Latin America by the schemers of the Kremlin or Havana and that is a dangerous over-simplification.

They are the product of very particular circumstances which vary from country to country, but which tend to have certain points in common, among them a concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, repressive governments and pressures for reform. In the past, American

influence was often a very powerful factor, particularly in the small countries of Central America, and it was almost always thrown on the side of the status quo. It is, therefore, hardly surprising that opposition movements have adopted anti-American attitudes, or even that they should sometimes look for assistance to the United States' arch rival, the Soviet Union, as Cuba has. This may be irritating or even menacing, but to see them as having been put there by some outside influence is to get the sequence of events in the wrong order.

In proposing a programme of aid President Reagan has moved some way towards rectifying American policy and that is to be welcomed. It is true the purely economic aid is very limited and may well be even more so once Congress has its say, and that its effects can only be felt in the long term. But President Reagan, by these acts, has recognized that the best way to counter subversive movements is to eliminate the grievances on which they feed. The need now is to carry the same approach into thoughtful diplomacy, away from indiscriminate confrontation and into mediation so that moderate forces may be encouraged and not forced to ally with extremists. This requires acknowledging that the motive force behind the Sandinista government in Nicaragua or some of the guerrillas in El Salvador, are as much nationalistic as Marxist. In Nicaragua there is a leftist government with a strong Marxist element and it has lately been making moves to suppress dissent. But the Sandinistas still have a commitment to pluralism and to the maintenance of a large private sector. They are also anxious to have good relations with Washington. There is scope for discussion.

of the treatment of his sickest patients. This could mean that a patient will get no treatment should the patient's consultant psychiatrist and the medical commissioner disagree, and this in spite of the fact that two doctors and a lay person (relative, social worker, or judge) may have already agreed that the patient should be detained in hospital for treatment.

Who will be responsible in law for such circumstances? Where will patients be able to obtain recourse for inadequate treatment? The consultant will be faced with either discharging a sick and possibly dangerous patient or detaining him without treatment, thus denying a disabled individual a chance of improved health.

Next there will be a massive increase in unnecessary bureaucratic procedures and a considerable diversion of medical resources from the provision of patient care to an expensive quango.

Worst of all nurses and psychiatrists are opposed to detention without treatment, believing that such an eventuality would turn psychiatric hospitals into prisons. If Clause 38(3) is passed, staff will increasingly refuse to admit patients under compulsory detention, thus exacerbating the problem which successive governments have tried to tackle, that of persuading NHS services to accept and treat the difficult, disturbed, and dangerous patient.

In El Salvador, too, there are hard-line Marxists among the guerrillas. But one of the main objectives of negotiations should be to ensure that the influence of the hard-liners in any settlement is limited, and that the moderates are strengthened.

The dilemmas in El Salvador will not go away with the election, even if President Duarte's Christian Democrats defeat the extreme right. The guerrillas will still be there and American opinion, barely recovered from the traumas of Vietnam, is strongly opposed to deeper involvement and especially the commitment of American combat troops. So the risk remains that the present regime could be overthrown and replaced by one which had become violently anti-American and forced into the Cuban camp.

The cease-fire and negotiation advocated by Mexico's President Lopez Portillo is a canny course for American policy to pursue. The Russians and Cubans have their best opportunities when there is fighting going on because they or their allies can send arms to the side they favour. When the fighting stops their influence is liable to diminish because they cannot supply the economic help which is then needed; the Russians have already made it clear they are not prepared to take on the burden of another Cuba in Central America.

Mexico takes the view, of course, that the revolutionary movements in Central America are comparable to its own revolution earlier this century which has long been stabilised and that it is possible to come to terms with them. But it is at least as concerned as the United States to thwart the establishment of hostile governments in Central America. The record of confrontation is hardly so successful as to deny President Portillo's prudence a hearing.

None of these questions was raised in the earlier White Paper and consultation procedures. We do not believe that HM Government or Parliament wish to achieve these effects, and we therefore urge the House of Commons to reject Clause 38(3) in its present form.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN GUNN,
PAUL BOWDEN,
JOHN HAMILTON,
DAVID MAWSON,
JAMES MACKETH,
PAMELA TAYLOR,
Institute of Psychiatry,
De Crespigny Park,
Camberwell, SE5.
February 26.

Patients from abroad

From Mrs Margaret Plozman
Sir, In a letter today (February 24) you point out the complicated and distressing problems that would arise from Mr Fowler's plan to raise £5m from six million visitors to this country to help defray the cost of their emergency medical treatment. If he wishes to raise this sum, would he not be well advised to cut the Gordian knot and charge all adult visitors from the particular countries in question a flat fee, say, £2 on arrival here? Yours faithfully,
MARGARET PLOWMAN,
52 Felstead Road,
Oppingdon,
Kent.
February 24.

Wormwood Scrubs disorders

From Dr J.E. Thomas
Sir, Once again a report is produced on the prison system which condemns the behaviour of uniformed prison officers. Your report (February 25) on the Wormwood Scrubs "riot" catalogues the same depressing list of staff misdemeanours. And, once again, concentration on the real issue—corruption among staff—has generally been deflected by discussion around the usual irrelevant bolt holes, the records of the prisoners, and overcrowding.

Your Correspondent in today's issue (February 26) reminds us of the chronic failure of uniformed staff to obey orders, or sometimes even to obey the law. And the list could have filled one of your pages. The breakdown of discipline is so widespread and of such long standing that we forget how serious a breach is the refusal, as at Fackelchurch, to allow members of the public to visit prisoners in the prison: a person who is the representative of both the Home Secretary and the community and is entitled under the law to visit at any time.

This kind of behaviour, which, as you say, is widespread, is illegal and leaves out of account such acts as the vindictive stopping of visits on Boxing Day, which was described as "negotiated".

Perhaps the most important point in the Scrubs report concerns the behaviour of the staff after the riot. As elsewhere this demonstrates that the officers do indeed decide on how the prisons will be run. The prison governors, in their evidence to the May inquiry, asked for a strengthening of the discipline code. This was refused. But until this issue of staff caprice is faced we can only look forward to more law breaking and vindictive behaviour by staff and a consequent failure of our historic commitment to treating reasonably, not to punish as to those who are locked away.

Mr O'Neil said that the governors are "in the middle". It is time that they were put back on top, and high time that the Home Office restored the authority which we in the community have authorised them to exercise. Yours faithfully,
J.E. THOMAS,
The University of Nottingham,
Department of Adult Education,
14-22 Shakespeare Street,
Nottingham.
February 26.

Satellite TV

From the Managing Director of BBC Television

Sir, I am sad that Paul Fox has written a letter (March 2) so sharply critical of the BBC's application to run a subscription channel. He knows as well as I do that someone will end up running such a service and it will consist to a large extent of new feature films.

The BBC's policy will be to insist that these films are made available to network television, either BBC or ITV, after approximately the same delay as at present; and to ensure that any profit made from the enterprise will go back into television or films and not be diversified into other activities. In short, the licence fee payer will gain from the BBC's plan.

Yours faithfully,
ALASDAIR MILNE,
BBC,
Television Centre, W12.
March 2.

The Romanovs

From Mr George Engle
Sir, The Romanovs evidently demand weighty tomes. Piers Brendon, reviewing Professor Litvin's recent effort (February 25) describes it as "an American blockbuster which weighs two and a half pounds and packs a punch on every page". My copy of William Gerhard's pistol-packing book on them, published in 1940, is a novel, and has been the past as a mirror for the present, weighs all of 3lb 7oz and, though not mentioned in Michael Holroyd's piece on Gerhard which you published in 1981, is (as the saying goes), as good as a novel, and certainly deserves to be better known.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE ENGLE,
32 Wood Lane,
Highgate, N6.
February 26.

Lead in petrol

From the Director, Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, Ltd

Sir, I am responding to The Times' leader (February 9, "Poison in the air") where you comment on lead in petrol. In view of my position I have had to take an interest in this subject because of requests for information on the likely effect of lead-free petrol on car engines.

I must say at the outset that car engines can, of course, be made to run on lead-free petrol. If they are to maintain the same performance as at present, the engines will have to be bigger and they will certainly be less economical.

Present engines cannot run on lead-free petrol and will fail if it is tried. They also cannot run on petrol at 0.15 grammes per litre (g/l) unless the octane rating is maintained. It is for this reason that there will be additional costs in refining. But, and I emphasize this, both vehicle manufacturers and the petroleum industry can respond to these demands if they are laid upon them. From now on I speak as a father and a recent grandfather from an entirely personal point of view.

Sources of lead in blood are food, water and air. The water contribution depends, it seems,

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Dichotomy of values' on cricket tour

From Mr D. G. Auger

Sir, Once again controversy has erupted over a number of English cricketers who have gone to South Africa to work at their chosen profession. Their motives are almost certainly mercenary and have nothing to do with the endorsement of the noxious political philosophy apartheid.

I am appalled, not by the desire of any person making a living from a profession depending as it does on form and physical health to increase their gross earnings, but by the wave of hypocrisy that inevitably follows. After all cricketers from India, Pakistan and the West Indies come to this country for the same reason and actually play in county teams alongside South Africans.

There appears to be no dissent regarding this anomaly or the fact that Britain and South Africa continue to enjoy very strong and mutually profitable trade links. This dichotomy of values is compounded by continuing sporting and trade links with the Soviet Union and her satellites, all countries in which the cause of human rights leaves much to be desired. Afghanistan is forgotten and the war against man's inhumanity to man returns to the cricket field, so pale is the shadow of this once great nation that its falling is not sufficient for bad lips to stop this ridiculous play.

Yours sincerely,
D. G. AUGER,
6 Courlands Avenue,
Hampton,
Middlesex.
March 2.

From Miss Alison Davis

Sir, Your correspondent, John Woodcock (March 2), suggests the 12 English cricketers currently in South Africa are simply rewarding the efforts of the South African Cricket Union (SACU) to bring multi-racial cricket to South African playing fields. He chooses to ignore the political implications of their visit, is he so naive as to think that in South Africa sport and politics are played in different arenas?

The players may feel they are just playing cricket; the South African Government no doubt feels it has won a political victory. It will exploit the affair point out to its own supporters that there is a good deal of sympathy worldwide for South Africa — and by that the Government means (however much the players themselves or even the SACU may protest) sympathy for the policies of apartheid. Or perhaps Mr Woodcock can

suggest a different interpretation of the fact that the South Africans playing against the English team will all receive full Springbok colours?

Yours,
ALISON DAVIS,
41, Ayrshire Road,
Stoke Newington, N16.
March 2.

From Mr David Little

Sir, Amidst the furore about the South African cricket tour two things strike me. How strange that on the day when there is such a fuss in the House of Commons, the captain of the "official" rugby union tour should receive the OBE from the Queen.

Secondly, Mr Boycott's smile must be wryer than usual at the talk of banning these players. When he turned down the money offered by Mr Parker was there not a similar threat? Will anyone give me odds against, say, Graham Gooch playing for, or indeed captaining, England within the next five years? It must be a good bet.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LITTLE,
21 Woodlands Road,
Formby,
Liverpool.
March 3.

From Mr Tony Hodges

Sir, I was sitting at home last night watching the news and the latest information concerning the outrageous behaviour of England's cricketers daring to appear in South Africa.

I was so indignant that I took off my jacket (made in South Africa) and opened another bottle of South African wine. I even put down the British travel brochure inviting me to holiday in South Africa.

How can we possibly think of playing with people we do business with? Surely it is not British. Yours etc,
TONY HODGES,
The Gazette,
Clumber Road West,
The Park,
Nottingham.

From Mr G. H. Jacobs

Sir, Let this country give hope and support to the untouchables by refusing to play cricket with India until the vile and pernicious caste system has been abolished. Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY H. JACOBS,
9 St Clare Street,
Minories, EC3.
March 2.

BL Bathgate sale

From Mr D. R. G. Andrews

Sir, I refer to your leader column of March 2 in which you referred to the sale of Leyland's agricultural tractor business. I must take issue with the statement that this was a "knockdown price".

The fact is the business had been losing significant amounts of money and had no hope of viability at Bathgate, production capacity being several times larger than any foreseeable level of future sales. It would have had to be closed altogether if no buyer had been found. As it was, the deal was struck was advantageous not only in financial terms, but also in that it gave Bathgate some on-going business on engine supply and saved some jobs.

There was no question of hanging a public "for sale" notice on the tractor business, particularly as the disposal involved the closure of the existing Bathgate operation. Such a premature announcement would undoubtedly have resulted in an immediate erosion of customer confidence with the

earlier closure of the business being a certain consequence.

However, we did receive a number of approaches from interested parties against which we were able to judge the offer which was finally accepted.

I find it difficult to follow the argument in the last sentence in the article, which talks of the possibility of managerial mistakes being "fudged and concealed". Our procedures and accounts are constantly reviewed and approved by independent auditors.

Additionally, in the case of the tractor disposal we gave full information to the Department of Industry, in accordance with the agreed arrangements between BL and the Government for monitoring the company's progress. As you know, the Comptroller and Auditor General, who has mounted an inquiry into the sale, has full access to the department's files.

Yours sincerely,
D. R. G. ANDREWS,
Executive Vice-Chairman, BL
and Chairman, Leyland Group,
BL Public Limited Company,
35-38 Portman Square, W1.

East Timor

From Mr R. A. Hood

Sir, I would like to congratulate you on the recent leader (February 24) on the present situation in East Timor. We have long been concerned about the sufferings of the people of that region and would like to press for further debate and discussion in the national press.

One of the most worrying aspects of the situation in the East Timor is the lack of information from and about East Timor. We would hope that the Indonesians would agree to a request made by our partner

agency, Australian Catholic Relief, to admit observers from various aid agencies to examine the feasibility of restoring basic agricultural conditions in East Timor.

In general we wish to add our voice of support to the growing call for international observers to visit East Timor to give an objective assessment of the situation.

Yours sincerely,
R. A. HOOD,
Administrator,
The Catholic Fund for Overseas Development,
21a Soho Square, W1.
February 26.

Mr Jeremy Thorpe and Amnesty

From Dr Gordon McGregor

Sir, Through their well-intentioned letter (February 27), which begins by deploring the worldwide abuse of human rights, Mr David Astor and his friends may only succeed in adding to it. Mr Jeremy Thorpe has been appointed Director of the British Section of Amnesty by an open and rigorous selection procedure. Does he not now have the right to at least a brief opportunity to demonstrate his competence in the post before his unsuitability is further debated?

He was, conceivably, chosen partly because of the flair and judgment he showed in a previous lengthy period of political leadership. If your correspondents were to arraign retrospectively all the public figures of even our recent past whose judgments on private relationships had sometimes been reprehensible they would have a long list to work through.

They ask for "impeccable judgment" but have between them enough experience of human affairs to know that it is not to be had. Those who appoint can do no more than seek out the best available judgment for a particular post and, knowing that it will be fallible, advise and support it unless and until it proves damagingly inadequate.

I write as a rank and file member of Amnesty who neither knows Mr Thorpe nor shares his political affiliation, and remain, Sir, as your correspondents requested,

Unequivocally yours,
GORDON MCGREGOR,
Principal's House,
The College,
Lord Mayor's Walk,
York.
February 28.

From Mr John Hall and others

Sir, The move to oust Mr Jeremy Thorpe from his new job as director of Amnesty International's British section may already have succeeded. The undersigned wish to record their sadness that an organisation devoted to the succour and rescue of persecuted individuals should even consider harassing and perhaps hounding their new director before he has even sat at his desk and looked round him at the problems facing Amnesty International.

Yours fr.,
JOHN HALL,
JOHN BAIRD & WELLS,
PAUL HOBHOUSE,
Ansford Cottage,
Ansford,
Castle Cary,
Somerset.
February 27.

From Mrs Michael Noakes

Sir, Quite apart from the fact that Jeremy Thorpe was found not guilty, I always understood that amnesty was the pardon of past offences. Yours faithfully,
VIVIANE NOAKES,
146 Hamilton Terrace,
St John's Wood, NW8.
February 27.

Canada's Constitution

From Sir Charles Fletcher-Cooke, QC, MP for Darwen (Conservative)

Sir, In his letter (March 1) Sir Anthony Kershaw misunderstands Sir Derek Walker-Smith's letter of February 25 and consequently misrepresents it. Nowhere does Sir Derek suggest that any finding by the Canadian courts can make an Act of the British Parliament invalid. On the contrary, in his letter Sir Derek described such an Act as "an instrument valid in English law as the product of the sovereignty of Parliament", that being the principle applicable to this country as being a unitary state with no written Constitution.

The danger to which Sir Derek rightly drew attention was the possibility, if the Canada Bill is enacted before judgment is pronounced, of a conflict between an Act valid in English law and a decision of the Canadian courts related to their federal Constitution.

Sir Anthony refers to the obligation of the British Parliament "to see that the Canadian request is a 'proper request'". But how can we know that the request is "proper" until the Supreme Court has decided whether the request was proper in accordance with the conventions of the Canadian Constitution — the very point to be canvassed in the proceedings in the Canadian courts?

To stigmatise such litigation as either "frivolous" or "vexatious" may well be regarded as offensive by judges and lawyers in Canada and may provoke a very dangerous reaction in the Province of Quebec. Surely the wise and statesmanlike course is to await, before proceeding further with the Bill, the judgment of the Supreme Court, which is confidently expected before the end of the year.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CHARLES FLETCHER-COOKE,
House of Commons.
March 2.

Hot line

From Mr Barry C. Martin

Sir, Referring to Saturday's correspondence (February 27) when they are bad they are very bad!

January 8, we informed Telecom of our proposed move, on March 1, to premises only next door. It is now the morning of March 1 and we have no service at either our old or new premises.

Yours,
B. MARTIN,
Martin and Warnock,
3 Bromley Road, SE6.

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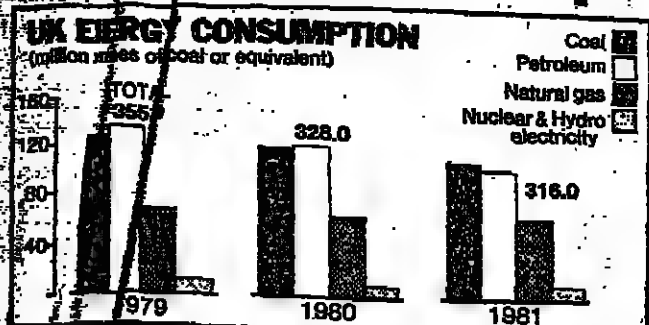
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Fuel consumption up



United Kingdom consumption of primary fuels was equivalent to 93.2 million tonnes of oil in the three months to the end of January, a rise of only 0.7 per cent on the corresponding period of 1981. Motor spirit deliveries were down 6.2 per cent in the three months. Petroleum output, however, was 23.5 million tonnes, a rise of 8.5 per cent on the corresponding period. Natural gas consumption rose by 7.1 per cent and coal by 0.4 per cent.

Drop in pension rebate

Members of occupational pension schemes which are contracted out of the State earnings-related pension scheme will pay more for their pensions from April 1983. New terms announced yesterday by the Government said that the rebate to both employer and employee in a contracted-out scheme will be reduced from 7 per cent to 6.25 per cent. This means that employees' National Insurance contributions will rise from 6.25 per cent of relevant earnings to 6.6 per cent, after April 1983.

More BL jobs lost

A further 200 jobs seem certain to be lost at British Leyland's truck plant at Bath, West Lothian, after JCB, the earth-moving company, said yesterday it was pulling out of the remainder of its £5m engines contract. The Staffordshire company has decided to standardize on Perkins engines. A BL spokesman said the news came as a great blow.

Carl Marks sues Russia

Carl Marks is suing the Soviet Union — Carl Marks Inc. of New York, that is, a securities company operating from that bastion of capitalism, Wall Street. The company has filed suits in the southern district court of New York seeking \$618.75m (\$325m) plus interest from Russia for debts due from the Russian Revolution. The case is being brought on behalf of some 3,000 holders of two debt issues sold in the United States in 1916 for the Imperial Russian Government and repudiated by Russia in 1918. Due in 1921, the \$25m 5½ per cent bonds were payable in American gold coin.

Bid setback

Sketchley, the dry cleaners, suffered a blow yesterday in its first United States takeover bid for Meats, Inc., the Chicago workwear and linen rental business, rival suitor to the Philadelphia-based ARA Services group, stepped in offering \$37 a share, valuing Meats at \$46m (\$25m) against the \$40m offered by Sketchley at \$33 a share.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director general of the Institute of Directors, warned business leaders yesterday that they should expect a reflationary Budget.

Mr Leo Tindemans, Belgian Foreign Minister, has again called on the United States, Japan and the EC to improve monetary cooperation.

Emergency Opec meeting could cut prices again

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will hold an emergency meeting this month to discuss the possibility of a price reduction. Dr. al-Otaibi, president of Opec, announced yesterday. The move, which comes only a day after the North Sea oil prices were cut by \$4 a barrel, increases the possibility of more reductions in official world prices, with beneficial effects on western economies.

Dr. al-Otaibi, who is also oil minister of the United Arab Emirates, said in Abu Dhabi that most of Opec's 13 members had agreed to the meeting. Some experts believe it could be held as early as the end of next week.

A meeting has been expected for some time, and the decision comes after two weeks of intensive diplomatic contacts within Opec. There was no indication last night, however, whether Saudi Arabia, the organization's largest producer, will attend. Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan al-Nahyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, will visit King Khalid, of Saudi Arabia today, probably to press the Saudis to attend.

The presence of the Saudis, who produce about 40 per cent of Opec's output, is regarded as vital if Opec is to make any real impact on the present turbulent world markets.

If the meeting is held, Saudi Arabia will be urged to cut its production to help maintain the present Opec pricing structure, based on a \$34 a barrel benchmark. Otherwise Opec members



Millionaire publisher Robert Maxwell yesterday: a hint that he may become the third man in the fight for ACC.

Maxwell hints at joining fight for ACC

By Philip Robinson

Millionaire publisher Mr Robert Maxwell admitted yesterday that he owns non-voting shares in Associated Communications Corporation and hinted he could become the third man in a fight to gain control of the asset-rich empire formerly headed by Lord Grade.

He would join Australian Mr Robert Holmes a Court, who replaced Lord Grade as chairman and chief executive and has two bids, one worth £36m and another worth £46.5m on the table and Mr Gerald Ronson, whose Heron Corporation is now offering nearly £20m.

In his first interview since entering the battle, Mr Ronson said yesterday that he would not be prepared to run ACC if Mr Holmes a Court retained his 51 per cent non-voting stake.

"I don't believe Mr Holmes a Court wants to own ACC. He's either going to sell at

the best price he can get or break up the company. I do not intend to go in and strip the company and destroy it."

Mr Holmes a Court says the difference between him and me is that I get emotionally attached to my business. That's right. I do get emotionally attached to the people who work for me.

"I want to know when the directors of ACC are going to start acting responsibly to the people of that company," he said.

He is still waiting to meet the board of ACC, a request which was first lodged on January 13.

Mr Ronson said if he gained control of ACC, there would be an orderly withdrawal from films in the United States, Lord Grade could continue on a contract which would pay him £202,000 a year until 1984 and then be terminated at six months' notice, and that Mr

Jack Gill, dismissed managing director of ACC, could well be brought back.

"I don't want to get involved with the court case over Mr Gill's pay-off, but if a man was earning £125,000 a year and was thrown out — it was a straight fight with Lord Grade, him or me — for reasons we still don't know and he had worked there that long, then he may be entitled to it."

Mr Maxwell said he bought the shares some while ago "as an investment". Since then the two takeover offers have chased the price from 66p to a 12-month new peak last night of 91p. The stock market has convinced itself that higher prices for the entertainment property group, whose asset backing is put at 125p a share, is on the way.

Mr Maxwell said: "I am watching the situation. I am

not going to say I will make a bid and I can't say whether I'm buying any more shares, but the court decision opens the situation."

He was referring to Monday's Appeal Court ruling which effectively paved the way for ACC to be sold to the highest bidder.

Meanwhile, the ACC board gathers today for the first formal meeting since the Appeal Court judgment. It is likely they will discuss how they might sell assets valued in excess of £7m.

Under the Takeover Code, they could either ask Mr Ronson's permission, seek a ruling of the Full Takeover Panel, or ask shareholders' permission. Mr Holmes a Court is expected to make a statement next week on whether he intends to increase his bid for the group. Heron's offer document is due out on Monday morning.

Dawn raid planned for Fleet?

By Ronald Pullen

There is widespread speculation that today's stock market debut of Fleet Holdings, Trafalgar House's demerged newspaper and publishing interests, will coincide with a raid on the company's shares.

A number of likely candidates have been mentioned including a consortium led by Mr Jocelyn Stevens, former deputy chairman of Express Newspapers; Mr Robert Holmes a Court, Mr Tim Rowland of Lorrain, and Mr Robert Maxwell.

Mr Maxwell denied planning a dawn raid on Fleet. He however said that he still harboured ambitions to own a Fleet Street newspaper.

Meanwhile Fleet shares are expected to start dealings at around 22.25p against the stated net assets of 59p and a 20p par value.

ROMANIA 'MILLSTONE'

From Peter Norman, Brussels, March 3

Romania's proposals to reschedule about \$2,400m (£1,325m) of its Western debt have left bankers resentful at the way they were asked for re-scheduling and cast doubt on the usefulness of Eastern Bloc countries joining the International Monetary Fund to repair their economies.

"After Poland, it's the second Comecon millstone round our necks and such cases set a bad example to other Eastern Bloc debtors," said a West German banker summing up Romania's request for an agreement rescheduling most of its debts due this year and about \$1,000m of debt outstanding from last year.

After talks in Frankfurt with a small group of its bankers last week, Romania sent telex messages to its 200 or so Western creditor institutions proposing that it repay the \$2,400m over 6½ years.

Post Office chief predicts £80m profit

By Bill Johnstone

Profits on the postal service this year could reach over £80m, Mr Ron Dearing, Post Office chairman, told a Parliamentary Select Committee on Industry and Trade yesterday. But he warned, investment was threatened by the Government's inflexible attitude to external financing limits.

The postal service is expected to return a profit of £70m, nearly £20m above target, and contrasts with the profit of £23.3m achieved last year, which was £20m below. Girobank will make up the balance.

Mr Dearing told the committee that the Post Office needed to invest £700m over the next five years. Through financing constraints, next year's investment would be £130m instead of £220m.

About £140m is needed to complete the mechanization of mail sorting offices. £100m is wanted to replace inadequate or outdated sorting offices. £170m is required to adapt or replace buildings. The remainder of the investment would be used to improve buildings and buy new equipment.

Government financial targets require the Post Office to return 2 per cent on turnover (after interest) on the postal side of the business. These targets expire at the end of this financial year and are being reviewed by the Department of Industry.

The Post Office claims that efficiency contributed to the profits, although it increased prices in February by 9.3 per

cent. It intends to reduce its costs by about 5 per cent over the next three years.

Inland letters which, in 1981, contributed about 58 per cent of the revenue, would be substantially affected by the lack of investment.

According to Mr Dearing, the financing limits prevent the corporation using profits as required. He warned: "If such restrictions continue, the planned capital programme will need to be cut by 30-40 per cent. This could lead to a reduction in service and efficiency through the postponement of the 'completion of the letter mechanization programme'."

Agency services or counter services which, in 1981, contributed 21.6 per cent of the corporation's profits, have grown in the past year and are destined for further growth. Income in 1980-81 for such services was £381m and is estimated to reach £439m this financial year.

The Post Office has abandoned a formula for charging government departments for these services and has had talks with the Treasury on a new method of charging. Further discussions are to be held with individual departments.

The volume of inland letters has remained about the same as the previous year, some 9,500 million items. Overseas mail services, which made a profit of £1.2m last year from an income of £222m, are expected to show a loss this year of £2.4m on an income of £250m.

Pact with Opec needed, says Thatcher adviser

'No upturn this century'

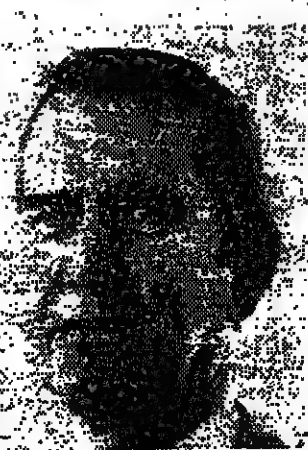
By Melvyn Westlake

A senior economic adviser to the Prime Minister yesterday predicted that there would be no significant upturn in Western economies before the 1990s, and possibly not before the end of the century.

Professor Sir Douglas Hague said another period of prosperity like that of the 1950s and 1960s would have to wait until new growth industries emerged.

Western countries, he said, should try to work out some understanding with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries over the way the oil price should increase from year to year. Professor Hague was, however, not optimistic that such an understanding would be reached.

Addressing a financial conference in London, he forecast yesterday that the 1980s would see much greater exchange rate stability than in the 1970s. He could not see western governments relaxing their efforts to "squeeze out" inflation, through the use of high interest rates, for a year or two.



Professor Hague: pessimist.

The joker in this particular pack remained the price of oil. This was more a political phenomenon rather than an economic one. Forecasting was therefore difficult. I remain a moderate pessimist. I do not believe the prospects of doom which predict that a new oil price increase in the mid-1980s will bring the world to economic and even military disaster.

The emergence of France, Germany and the United States as important manufacturing nations in the 1870 and 1880s allowed Britain from its hitherto preeminent position with the consequence that it expressed 20 years of depression.

Professor Hague referred to suggestions that the Western nations now faced a similar period of years during which they would have to adjust to the success of the newly industrializing nations. This was a gloomy forecast, but that did not make it wrong. The period of 1950 to 1973 was very much the golden age of the motor car. The next upturn would have to be based on something new.

MARKET SUMMARY

Gilts run out of steam

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT index 555.2 down 2.6
FT Gilts 67.42 up 0.11
FT All-share 321.49 down 0.34
Bargains 23,013

Investors started to batter down the gilts yesterday by reversing their positions ahead of next Tuesday's Budget.

As a result there were a few sellers about to see the FT index end the day 2.6 down at 555.2, having been 1.8 higher at 11am.

Elsewhere, at least a 1½ per cent cut in base rates now appear to be receding with just four trading days left before the Budget.

Oil opened steady, but lost selling pressure yesterday after news of a possible Opec price cut for North Sea crude. BP closed unchanged at 282p and earlier gains among many of the others were cancelled. Shell ended just 2p up at 342p, Lasso 5p at 303p, Tricentral 2p at 188p and Burnham 1p at 177p.

Ultramar's full year figures were well received with the absence of a rights issue also proving cause for celebration. But after touching 385p at one stage, the shares ended the day with net loss of 5p at 385p.

Gilt-edged showed signs of running out of steam after the market's recent spectacular performance. Dealers reported a noticeable trailing off in turnover with no further at the end of the day. The Bank of England of the expected cut in interest rates.

COMMODITIES

Cash tin remained under selling pressure yesterday, closed at 27.080 a tonne, after reaching 26.960 in the morning. But three months tin rose by £90 to £7,295 a tonne, producing one of the widest contangoes for many months. Much of the morning selling was against options, dealers said. There was better stock buying in the afternoon. Mr Paul Leong, Malaysia's Primary Industries Minister, said that a meeting of all tin producers was likely to be held in Nigeria at the end of June.

TODAY

Industry Select Committee on British Shipbuilders.
Confederation of British Industry regional conference, West Midlands.
Board meetings: Interims: Medinastir, Michel, Cots. Finals: Antofagasta Railway, General Mining Union Corporation, Law Debenture Corporation, Macallan-Glenlivet, Ransomes Sims and Jeffries, Rea Bros, Rentokil Group, W N Sharpe, Tavenor Rutledge, Weeks Petroleum.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Average 7,474.42 up 165.01.
Hongkong: Hang Seng index 1,196.69 down 35.08.

CURRENCIES

● Rates moves narrowly in quiet trading with the pound recovering from a day's low of \$1.8125
LONDON CLOSE
STERLING: \$1.8230 up 90 points
Index 90.8 up 0.1
DM4.3200
Yen 432.00 DOLLAR
Index 113.1 down 0.2
DM2.3710 down 67 pts
GOLD: \$353.50 down \$7

MONEY MARKETS

● Period rates eased by about ½ per cent, in response to a forecast shortage of £300m, the Bank bought £38m of bills outright at unchanged rates and £206m for repurchase by the houses on March 24 at 13½ per cent.

Domestic rates

Base rates 13½
3-month interbank 13½-13¾
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 14½
-14½
3 month DM 9¼-9½
3 month Fr.F 15¼-15½

NCB faces monopolies inquiry

By Jonathan Davis and Derek Harris

The Government yesterday ordered the Monopolies Commission to investigate the efficiency of the National Coal Board as part of a drive to monitor the performance of nationalized industries.

The commission will be carrying out six other investigations, including one into the Civil Aviation Authority.

Although the Government attempted to play down the coal investigation as just another routine part of the commission's expanded role, there is no doubt that politically, the commission's conclusions will be highly sensitive. The investigation comes at a time when the coal industry is facing a critical change of course.

with the election of Mr Arthur Scargill as president of the miners' union, and the imminent retirement of Sir Derek Ezra, the board chairman.

The wide-ranging inquiry will include the coal board's operating costs and its investment plans. Interest in both Government and the industry will be focused on whether the commission's findings will question the closure of uneconomic pits.

The coal investigation will be followed by inquiries into two regional water authorities, Anglian and North West, and two electricity boards, Yorkshire and South Wales.

Caledonian MacBrayne, ferry operators with a monopoly in the Scottish islands and part of the Scottish Transport Group, will also be investigated.

The investigation of the Anglian and North West water authorities will look at whether they can improve the efficiency and reduce the costs of their sewerage operations.

In future the Government will announce its investigation programme for the coming year in advance. Mr John Biffen, the Secretary of State for Trade, said. But after an investigation of an industry a fresh inquiry would not be mounted for at least four years.

CSI wants new investor protection

By Lorna Bourke

There is an urgent need for new legislation to protect investors, the council for the Securities Industry has told the Department of Trade. The council also supports the need for a statutory authority to regulate licensed dealers, as recently proposed by the department.

Last January, after the collapse of several licensed dealers in Securities — most notably Norton Warburg, which crashed owing private investors nearly £5 million — the department published draft proposals for amending the licensed dealers' rules.

The council gives its full support to these suggestions only minor amendments. The department's main proposals were that clients' money should be kept in a separate "client's account" which would be regularly monitored by the department, and that it should be a legal requirement for all licensed dealers to have full indemnity and fidelity insurance to provide protection for investors in the event of fraud.

These proposals are enthusiastically handled by the CSI, though it believes they should be tightened up still further by defining precisely what can be paid into a client's account and what can be withdrawn.

Several amendments on dealing practices, pointing out that dealers' books cannot be written up before a transaction is carried out. The recommendation is, therefore, that securities bought for discretionary clients should be allocated to those clients immediately, "and in so doing, the dealer shall not take a turn in the dealing price."

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where the best people meet.

PEOPLE

Judge not, list ye be judged

Scrubbing an advertisement may be a bit of a nuisance, but it is a necessary evil. Two members of the Billboard Advertising Association (BAA) were charged with advertising a Marlboro cigarette by writing "Horse's smell" on a BAA UP.

Mr Justice said he had the "most sympathy" with the BAA. He ordered a fine of £35 (£20 appeal) for each. Coleman and the BAA were charged. "You can stop out a cigarette and you can sniff a BAA UP so quickly."

Personally, I am not so sure that the whole case has been the last. Stevenson said: "No man should marry a woman who smokes. And what is smoking to a Chancellor, save a way of raising money. Remember the Roman emperor Vespasian, child of a public lavatory; he flipped a coin and said: 'Money has no smell.'"

The only place that does without a bank is, I suppose, the cemetery, and along comes Lloyds Bank to help recycle the £153m City of London ratepayers are kindly spending on refurbishing the 25 acres comprising the Barbican Arts and Conference Centre and known as the City of the Dead. Lloyds has in fact the only branch of a bank in the cemetery, apart from the whole truth, it is a sub branch. Presumably, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds and a director of the City Arts Trust will wait and see just how much conference trade the Centre generates now that just about every rival venue is grasping for business.



"I suppose this will mean another run of Star Trek..."

Win the pools for just £40?

A pocket calculator could hit the jackpot for a small Cotswold firm. Dutchford of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, is about to market our first football pools forecaster, which so far this season is said to be consistently better than all other tipsters combined. "We call it the Datasdraw," explains Keith Lindley, Technical Director. It is something like a calculator. It can be used for betting by any sort, but is particularly suitable for the League format. It uses data that is available each week in the newspapers, but it also allows the punter to feed in his own hunches. We've already had quite a few wins."

The forecaster is the brainchild of Don Wright, an ex-RAF navigator with a passion for playing games. Previously, he has been responsible for puzzles on the back of Kellogg's Cornflakes. Keith adds: "The Datasdraw should start at just under £40."

How kind of Keith and Don to grow rich by enriching others.

Maxwell sticks to hard Labour

How should millionaires socialise those who party to back? Should they protect capital, and support monetarists (plus three million unemployed)? The hard Left as a form of Danegeld? Or other in the middle? Erstwhile Labour MP and saviour of British Printing Corporation, Mr Robert Maxwell, has just said: "The SDP. Indeed he seemed yesterday to be falling for the Iron Lady's magnetic attraction. He told me: 'You must give Maggie credit for getting inflation down. But I did not vote for her and never would. I'm a die hard Labour man.'"

Peter Wainwright

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Sir Humphrey Priddleaux has been appointed a director of Grindlays Holdings.

Mr R. N. Parnes, a managing director, has assumed responsibility for operations in the Middle East and Africa of Grindlays Bank Group. He succeeds Mr A. C. F. Thomson who retires from executive duties but remains a director of the bank and of Grindlays Holdings.

Peter Wilson-Smith

Why the big banks will keep their record profits



WHAT THEY MADE

	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976
Barclays	567	524	529	373	295	198
Lloyds	398	290	277	185	173	148
Midlands	232	232	315	231	197	167
Nat West	494	410	441	306	241	188*

*different accounting basis

Three of the four big clearing banks have published their 1981 results and the figures are impressive. Lloyds Bank kicked off the reporting season with a one-third gain to £386m. National Westminster showed a 20 per cent rise to £494m and earlier this week Barclays announced an 8 per cent rise in profits to £567m.

The record profit — considerably higher than 1980 results — led to the windfall profits tax — might well prompt the man in the street to ask whether another special levy was in order.

The profits of three banks to have reported so far total £1,447m compared with £1,224m in 1980 — an 18 per cent increase.

Midland is not expected to do as well as the other banks and some outsiders are even forecasting a fall in profits. But even assuming the worst — that Midland's profits are down from £232m to say £215m — the total profits of the big four would still show a 14 per cent gain to £1,665m during a year when much of British industry was facing the worst recession since the 1930s.

Dividends have also been raised sharply. Barclays has raised 1981 dividends by 19 per cent and indicated a one-fifth rise for 1982. Nat West gave shareholders one-fifth more and Lloyds a one-quarter.

But despite these very high figures the clearing bank chairmen appear remarkably relaxed and the general feeling is that the banks should escape from next week's Budget largely unscathed.

The Government, after all, made great play of the fact that last year's windfall tax, which cost the big four a total of £315m, was a one-for-all impost.

But on top of that, the banks would certainly argue that the crucial element which made last year's profits so politically sensitive is less in evidence this year.

The windfall or endowment element in bank profits, which arises from high interest rates and which provided the main justification for last year's special profits tax, has been falling. Historically the banks have prospered from high interest rates because a large part of the deposits are in the form of current accounts, which do not pay interest to the customer although they now cost about 10 per cent to run.

During 1981 average bank base rates came down from 16.3 per cent the previous

Nat West's international banking division also showed an improvement in profits before loan interest despite the continuing problems with National Bank of North America, although if financing costs were fairly allocated, Nat West's international gains would probably prove less impressive than that of the other banks.

Leasing is another area where the banks made bigger profits last year, but it has also had a big impact in reducing the tax charge of two of the banks to report so far — a fact which will not be missed by those who feel the banks should be taxed more heavily. The reported tax charge at Barclays, for instance, fell from £152, to £105m last year and that of Nat West from £92m to £57m.

Much of this of course relates to overseas tax and after taking advantages of all the reliefs available to them the banks pay very little United Kingdom corporation tax.

On the basis of 1980 accounts, for instance, the big four clearing banks incurred a liability for United Kingdom corporation tax of only about £66m. This excludes deferred tax which they have provided for on the basis that it may become payable at some future date and is also after netting off relief for overseas taxation.

Rough guide though it is, it does bear out the point that the banks can greatly reduce their tax bill through leasing and — along with many other parts of industry — are not

taxed heavily on their United Kingdom profits.

In their defence, of course, the banks point to the benefits they provide for industry with their leasing business by providing a cheap form of finance for capital investment. They also argue that much of the tax advantage they gain through leasing is passed straight on to the lessee in the form of lower effective interest charges.

One of the main arguments put forward against the windfall profits tax by the banks was that it would eat into their capital bases and impair their ability to grow. On this score the banks appear to have weathered the tax pretty well and they have not been constrained from paying much higher dividends in 1981.

Midland Bank may prove to have been the worst sufferer when it reports results later this month. The windfall tax came as a particularly bad time for Midland. Last year it went ahead with the big and expensive acquisition of Crocker National Corporation in the United States and its recent profits performance has been poor.

However, the other banks have all emerged from 1981 with fairly comfortable capital ratios. Ideally of course bankers would like their capital bases to grow in line with their balance sheets but the fall in sterling against the dollar and other currencies has inflated the balance sheets of the banks.

Barclays, whose balance sheet grew by 30 per cent last year, did see its free capital ratio (which indicates the strength of the balance sheet) slip from 4 to 3.5 per cent. However, the £100m loan stock it is raising — it lost £94m through the windfall profits tax — will restore the ratio to 3.8 per cent.

An indication of the cost of the windfall tax of profits was given by Nat West which estimated that £14m of the £72m rise in loan interest last year represented the cost of additional loan capital to replace what it lost through the tax.

An important development of bank lending over the past year has been the big rise in mortgage business carried out by the banks, which are now thought to be providing about 50 per cent of all bank mortgages at the moment and has just topped £1,000m in mortgage lending. However the impact on bank profits, although it will grow, is likely to remain fairly modest and probably has a depressing effect on margins.

had reserves which were less adequate than they were in 1975. In almost two-thirds of the countries examined, reserves were not sufficient to buy three months imports, which is usually regarded as the minimum amount. These included countries that were self-sufficient in oil or net exporters like Bolivia, Egypt, Guatemala, and Mexico, as well as oil importers, like Jamaica, Thailand, Tanzania and Morocco.

Taken together, the developing countries possessed reserves equivalent to 3 1/2 months imports, compared with three months in 1975 and a peak of 4 1/2 months in 1978.

The question is whether the developing countries can now re-build their financial positions. This looks increasingly unlikely. One difficulty is that the debt burden is higher now than it was in the mid-1970s. Moreover, the world recession seems likely to continue for many months.

This will reduce the Third World nations' scope for exporting their way out of trouble (whereas in 1976 the world economy was well on the way to recovery), and in the longer-term, it looks highly likely that the depression in oil prices will prove as transitory as in 1975, and to a lesser extent in 1978.

If the price resumes its upward trend, this will help sustain the increasing number of oil exporters. But if the oil importers have not got their finances into better shape by that stage, many of them will be in very deep trouble.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13 1/4%
Barclays	13 1/4%
BCCI	13 1/4%
Consolidated Crds.	13 1/4%
C. Hoare & Co	13 1/4%
Lloyds Bank	13 1/4%
Midland Bank	13 1/4%
Nat Westminster	13 1/4%
TSB	13 1/4%
Williams & Glyn's	13 1/4%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 up to £50,000 12 1/4%

A delicate balance for poorer nations

faces serious balance of payments problems. Its current account deficit last year was nearly \$12,000m, some 75 per cent up on the previous year.

External debt has soared and growth has slumped. Two weeks ago the Mexican

PERSPECTIVE: OIL PRICES AND THE THIRD WORLD

By Melvyn Westlake

Government allowed the peso to float freely against the dollar on the international currency markets, and it immediately fell by 30 per cent.

Mexico is something of a special case. Even so, several other oil exporters have felt obliged to ask their bankers for bigger loans.

A key factor for the Third World is the extent that lower oil prices stimulate higher economic activity in the industrialized nations. Higher growth in the West would help halt the slide in commodity prices and provide bigger markets for Third World exports. However, the oil price fall would have to go a good deal further before it has a significant effect on world growth.

In the meantime, it may well trigger off changes in the pattern of bank lending. One implication of a fall in the revenues of the oil exporters is that less money will be available to the banks for recycling.

Some oil exporters will be

DEFICITS OF NON-OIL DEVELOPING NATIONS

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
									(2)
Exports	88	108	130	149	182	241	248	268	297
Imports	117	123	142	170	225	289	303	325	354
Trade balance	-28	-15	-12	-21	-33	-48	-54	-57	-57
Services, private transfers	-9	-9	-7	-9	-15	-23	-26	-28	-28
Current balance	-37	-24	-19	-30	-48	-71	-81	-85	-85

Q3 1981 year on annual rate

Source: OECD December Economic Outlook

Business Editor

Spotlight on the NCB

This government has got it in for the nationalised industries, remaining firm in its belief that they are innately inefficient and must be made to mend their ways.

It is not a totally unjustified presumption. Common experience and successive enquiries have shown corporations suffer most of the diseases of large corporations with a dominant market position. The problem for the Government is how to get at these inefficiencies.

One approach, furthered yesterday with the National Coal Board (and with two water boards to follow), is to refer the industries to the Monopolies Commission for investigation. Several, including the Central Electricity Generating Board and the gas showrooms, have been referred to the commission in this way, and the reports have been of higher quality than most of its reports on commercial companies.

There is no reason to doubt that in the Coal Board's case it will not also be useful. For too long the Coal Board has been regarded as a sacred cow that cannot be directly criticised. On the whole it appears efficiently run but there is no harm for its management to face the inquisitors.

Alternative approaches being canvassed include a change in the structure of the industry as proposed by the Think Tank. It is apparently gaining some Downing Street support. Under the Tank's suggestions, government departments would set up internal auditing bodies for their own nationalised industries, staffed partly by experts from the commercial world, and the industry boards would be reconstituted to give power to non-executive outsiders.

Parliament meanwhile is fiercely promoting its own preference for giving the Auditor General access to the industries and the Select Committees authority to review his reports.

Of course the drawback to all these suggestions is that such efficiency audits can barely touch the surface of a corporation whose profit and loss is decided by government policy towards pit closures, electricity generation and subsidies. The fundamental questions hovering over the NCB which is currently absorbing nearly £500m a year in subsidies — is whether the miners are prepared for pit-pit productivity deals, whether the Government is prepared to force closures of less efficient pits in areas of high unemployment in favour of the new mines at Selby, and whether the Government should allow full competition to coal from imports or untaxed alternative fuels.

As long as this is so, then the danger of this massed assault is that, far from improving the efficiency of industries, it will divert attention from the fundamental structural problems and gravely damage morale in the corporations.

Budget Top tax rates

It is a brave man who starts delving deeper into Hodge predictions so close to the National Insurance day. But the more one looks at the scenario, the more one sees compelling political pressures for the Chancellor to concentrate his attentions on the corporate sector.

Whether that means selective help to industry and, perhaps, some initiative to help bulk industrial buyers of energy rather than a significant cut in the National Insurance Surcharge remains to be seen. But the fact of the matter is that the government is going to find it extremely difficult to persuade the electorate that this is in any way a good budget for them.

Even with the indexation of personal allowances in line with last year's (12 per cent) inflation, taxpayers would find the percentage of their income going in tax rising once more thanks to the extra they are going to have to pay for national insurance contributions.

Now all this may be inevitable in the sense that fewer in work have to pay a greater proportion of their income to support those out of work. But that is not going to make it any more palatable. Nor, more particularly, is the fact that people seem certain to receive less in absolute terms in their first pay packet of the new tax year than in the last one of the old year.

That would not, however, be true of the higher paid were the Chancellor to index all tax bands. A married man earning more than about £15,000 (and with no mortgage) would start to find more money in his pocket, while for those paying tax at the top rate the proportionate tax take would actually drop.

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chge	Div (%)	Gross Yld	P/E	Fullly
									Yield
125	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	125	—	10.0	8.0	—	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	71	+1	4.7	6.6	11.3	15.6	—
51	33	Armstrong & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5	—
205	187	Bardon Hill	198	—	9.7	4.4	9.6	11.7	—
103	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	103	+3	15.7	15.2	—	—	—
104	67	Deborah Services	67	—	6.0	9.0	3.3	6.3	—
131	97	Frank Horsell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1	—
83	39	Frederick Parker	81	—	6.4	7.9	4.1	7.9	—
78	46	George Blair	52	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Pref Castings	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3	—
106	100	Isis Conv Pref	106	—	15.7	14.8	—	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	96	—	7.0	7.3	3.0	6.8	—
130	108	James Burroughs	112	—	8.7	7.8	8.2	10.3	—
334	248	Robert Jenkins	248	—	31.3	12.6	3.4	8.8	—
61	51	Scruttons "A"	61	+1	5.3	8.7	9.4	8.7	—
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5	—
15	10	Twinklford Ord	13 1/4	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinklford 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—	—	—
44	25	Unicoll Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	—
103	73	Walter Alexander	77	—	6.4	8.3	5.1	9.0	—
263	212	W. S. Yeates	228	—	13.1	5.7	4.3	8.8	—

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

Nervous selling

Buchanan's
the Scotch of a lifetime

[illegible]

By John Witherow

It was also no clearer yesterday who would be the 13th player to be named. Derek Redmond, tipped as a possible recruit and presently playing in Australia, said he knew of no offer and was contracted to play for Northamptonshire in the County Championship. After his commitments ended in Australia he would return to Nottinghamshire.

The Australian Government have expressed regret over the visit by the English cricketers to South Africa because of the Government's Geneseeves Agreement with the South African sportsman in Canberra said.

Every Australian first class cricketer has been warned of the probable consequences of playing in South Africa. In a letter from the Australian Cricket Board last August each player was told that "participation in the tour of South Africa will risk your eligibility to play for Australia".

Australian Cricket Board officials yesterday were not surprised at the decision to refuse an unofficial team, and would not comment on it.

The former England Captain Tony Greig, who himself may be called up to the England Test team, said that many top Australians might be induced to play in South Africa.

Belle Robertson yesterday handed in a 70 against the par of 72 at Santa Ponsa, Majorca, to take the Ladies' Open to the next stage of the qualifying round for the Spanish ladies championship, Lewine Mair writes.

The 1981 British women's season further paved the way for Britain to finish the 47-four shots out in front in the Nations Cup, an international event run within the qualifying round. The British Ladies' team, who were playing against the United States, were led by Robertson had, respectively, a 74 and a 76.

With each nation allowed to enter two teams of three, Mary McKenna, Claire Hourie, and Vicki Thomas joined in to return the 224 total good enough to have them tying second with France.

Other football clubs need the Cardiff City players. The Welsh Rugby Union, which has applied to the Rugby League Council welcomed the new arrivals at the summer annual meeting, and the game achieved new horizons and new status. However, the story of the fortunes of the two clubs differ widely.

Cardiff have made an even bigger impact than Fulham, in playing terms, by going to the top of the second division and looking for favours to win the title.

Cardiff's successes, which have been the club's advances, were made in Fulham's last season, when the big enough to keep the new club viable and to encourage the belief that Rugby League can survive in north Cumbria.

In South Wales the Blue Dragons of Cardiff City have not made the impact expected in the rugby-mad principality. There has been premature and sometimes malicious talk of a quick collapse of the venture.

Cardiff's glamour has been firmly and categorically squashed by David Watkins, the one-time idol of the Arms Park Cardiff and now the managing director of Cardiff City Rugby League. "We have a five-city Rugby League set-up here at Ninian Park," he said.

The Cardiff experiment went off with a big bang, a 10,000 crowd turning up at

game," Mr Watkins says. "If you are bringing a new sport into an area you have to give the people something to make the point that Nevertheless, it is making the point that Cardiff's Rugby Union Club, with a century of tradition behind them, often get gates of 3,000 and even 2,000.

Another problem for Cardiff — and one which was feared and expected — has been the same entrenched opposition from Rugby Union diehards. Mr Watkins feels that, with some honourable exceptions in Cardiff and elsewhere, the Rugby Union press papers, the Blue Dragons have a fair chance. Little given the Blue Dragons a fair chance. Little given the Blue Dragons a fair chance. Little given the Blue Dragons a fair chance.

League outside the boundaries of Cardiff, and many stories about the new club glint over their struggles or are cynical about their ambitions.

At the promotion seems beyond Cardiff this season, Mr Watkins expects his team to finish comfortably in the top six or eight of the second division. "We have also promotion. His ideal is to field a side consisting of Welsh players, and an encouraging sign for him is that very many Rugby Union players are turning up to play the side for trials. Great names from the Rugby Union past of Wales have already made their impact at Ninian Park.

Ivan Lendl will not play Wimbledon this year because of insufficient practice on grass. Czechoslovakia does not have a single grass court. His decision is to miss Wimbledon together with his partner Jimmy Connors to miss the game that Borg may do the same, is a sharp reminder that the game's greatest championships are no longer as revered as they once were. Ken Rosebush writes.

Players can be far more successful on grass than on hard courts, either finding Wimbledon too small or resent the fact that for a month they must adjust their games to grass.

Single-minded and impractical, just as Borg has failed to win the United States championship on hard courts, Jimmy Connors have failed to take the French championship on singles.

Lendl may reasonably feel that it is impossible to permit the high-speed improvisations a Wimbledon champion needs.

A high-contrast, black and white photograph showing a heavily textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of fabric. The texture is grainy and uneven, with many small, light-colored specks and fibers visible against a dark background. In the lower-left corner, there is a dark, irregular shape that appears to be a shadow or a piece of material protruding from the surface. The overall image has a very high level of contrast, with deep blacks and bright whites, giving it a stark, almost abstract appearance.

one against another, it is against unjust prejudice.

"There's much less tension situation exists in the northern outskirts of the game at Carleton Place than there was in the past," says Hutton. "The players are certain of promotion. They know they will win the championship. In the past, the population Carleton have been very anxious to see their team win, and they attendances to an average of near 100."

Mr. Hutchinson, the Carleton director, does an excellent public relations job. He has a good working knowledge of the Rugby League, and he is thoroughly acquainted with the intricacies thereof at the success of the 13th year venture. "One reason we want in the Rugby League was to get maximum publicity for our club," he says. "We wanted to attract to all forms of sports complex here. We want all facilities to be fully used."

Hutchinson has been amazed at the response of the Carleton public to the large number of similar handling games. "I am surprised that the Carleton director is doing so well of excellent promotional scheme at the end of the month there will be a new wave of Rugby League at Brantford. On Saturday, March 26 there will be a second evening game against Rochdale Hornets on the following Sunday afternoon a home game with Huyton. I mean there will be a meet-the-players party, and an Open day on the Saturday."

When Charlie Magri went down in the fourth round from a birdie left hook from a fresh Mexican 20-year-old from Los Angeles, one Cipriano Arreola, Terry Lawless, Magri's trainer, said he was not sure whether his heart was in his boots or in is that. It was only when the final bell went and Magri was awarded the bonus that he knew he was not in his own back. But from today he has a lot of heart searching to do.

Where does his one time world bunter go from here? Mr Lawless said after the bout on the eighth night of the Hall that he might need two more contests before he was put in with the world flyweight champion, Antonio Aguilar. He said he would not name one the May 4 Wembley ind

to find a man who is not going to give Magri's chin a smart rap. He put him on the floor, against the wall, of course, they go back to Tijuana to find one of those horizontal Mexicans. There is no one in Europe—there are no Europeans here—and the British ones are best avoided. Magri is at a corner. It will take all the ingenuity of Mickey Duff, the matchmaker, to get him out of there.

There is only one way out. After a faint knock he will show forth with the world champion, if he must. It would be folly to leave the Stepukey boxer on his hiding to nothing for much longer. The fight is now going forward. There seems no point looking for the old Magri. He is the old Magri. And if he is given the chance to challenge Arreola, it is because he has been a small one of those cup crack-grant-kick acts.

The Arreola brothers, Cipriano and Adriano, who outclassed the British heavyweight champion John Paddy Kelly, have been told that such an important lesson never underestimate someone who has reached the national Golden Gloves finals, who has won the national championship and 20-year-olds to be down-and-

Lawless is brighter at the other end for him. He launched his heavyweight, if that is what one does to heavyweights, yesterday. He is Frank Bruno.

Mr Lawless believes that Bruno is potentially the greatest heavyweight ever in Britain. Bruno wanted to turn professional two years ago but was rejected by the Board because he was short-sighted. But Mr Lawless found two doctors who could cure short-sightedness — one lived in the

Stafford supreme

Atlantic City, March 3.—Boxer Stafford, the United States welterweight, knocked out Sugar Ray Leonard, in the fifth round of their 10-round bout here yesterday. Stafford, ranked third by the World Boxing Association (WBA), won by a unanimous decision of 115-114, 115-113, and 115-112, after a series of victories, and defeats and a draw.

The result gives him the right to challenge the unified world welterweight champion, Sugar Ray Leonard. The bout will take place in May at a venue yet to be arranged. Stafford's last come was a points victory over "Fighting" Everett in a magazine—Agence France-Press.

By David Hands

Jerry Day, secretary of the John Player Cup holders, Leicester, is to resign his post at the end of this season after 17 years' service. He has threatened to do so several times in the last 15 years.

Yesterday he said: "I feel I need a rest from the demands of the job. The club is on the right lines and should go on being successful."

Mr Day has been associated with the club since 1945, when he played in the first game at Welford Road after the war.

He was a wing back, and on or flank forward, guided he soon became involved in the administrative side of Leicester's affairs.

He guided the club through some difficult years, but says he has enjoyed the time which has come after the last four years as England's most successful club.

Once described by another leading Leicester light—"Chilly White"—the coach, as a "fusspot", Mr Day's influence has been paramount when the club has youth XVs in a team which has developed Paul Dodge, present England centre.

His dry sense of humour concealed true affection for the club and his success in Leicester club and in England.

Happily he was a member on the club's selection committee and as vice-president, Peter Leicester's former captain in England, said yesterday: "He took down the posts they wouldn't miss as much as Jerry". An comment.

[illegible]

Pakistan leave out eight

refused to play under the captaincy of Javed Miandad have been named in the Pakistan team announced for the first test match against Sri Lanka, starting in Karachi on Friday.

The four, chairman of the Pakistan cricket selectors, said negotiations with the players were continuing. "Once we have reached an understanding, the players omitted are: Majid Khan, Zaheer Abbas, Imran Khan, Sarfraz Khan, Asif Ali, Mushtaq Nazar, Sikandar Bakht and Wasim Bari.

TEAMS: Javed Miandad (captain), Manzoor Ali Khan, Asif Ali, Ghouse Ali Ghouse, Wasim Raja, Harisr Hashmi, Saleem Younis, Iqbal Qasbi, Tausif Ahmed, Tahir Mehmood, Feroz Din - **INJURY:**

from the world championships in Copenhagen next week, John Hennessy writes.

IRINA VOROBIEVA suffered a leg injury during training last week and has been told to rest for 10 days. The British pair were sixth in the Ladies' Pairs Championships at Lyons recently.

The holders of the world title, Irina Vorobieva and Igor Lisovski, of the Soviet Union, may not have to withdraw. They were not

at the European Championships in Lisbon, March 2-5. Henry was the first of the British to be the kid on the Portuguese after the first part of the leg. The Firm won the first of the six sides of the 1981-82 season in the Sertão da Serra region.

LEADING STANDINGS (after five rounds)

1	John Hennessy (England), 204
2	John Hennessy (England), 204
3	13mns (Swiss), 204
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100	13mns (Swiss), 204

Young Britons take challenge

year's Marlboro British Formula Three championship has inspired young Britons taking up the sport. The 1982 Marlboro series, which starts at Silverstone on Sunday.

Dave Scott, the Sussex driver, at age 19 of 19 last 1981 Grovewood award winner and already a contracted Lotus Formula One test driver, is joined by Nigel and Martin Weaver of Barlow, are all running with strongly competitive teams this year. The new step up into grand prix racing, a move encouraged by the Marlboro championship which offers a £10,000 prize for the first three at the end of season.

	Depth (in)	Conditions		Runs to resort	Weather (5 prn)	
		L (U)	Pista Powder			
Crane-Mountain	120	160	Pista	Good	Fine	
Flaine	155	410	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine
Fresh snow	65	195	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine
South-facing runs	140	250	Good	Powder	Good	Fine
Les Arcs	140	250	Good	Powder	Good	Fine
Fresh snow on firm base	70	230	Good	—	Fair	Cloud
Nesheru	70	230	Good	—	Fair	Cloud
Warm weather but good skiing	—	—	—	—	—	—

Excellent piste skiing				
In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, L represents lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from tourist boards:				
AUSTRIA	Depth (cm)	State of Piste	Weather	
Alpech	55, 170	+	+	
Alpech/Leslau	— 90	—	-2	
Badgastein	45 210	—	-2	
Badgastein	25 220	—	-2	
Garpanal	140 230	—	-2	
Hochaldden	150 270	-7	-7	
Ischgl	120 270	-2	-2	
Kaprun	— 250	—	-2	
Loch	200 300	-2	-2	
Lymnisch	15 80	—	-4	
Lymnisch	15 80	—	-4	
Mayrhofen	10 95	—	-4	
Wernsdorf	16 38	—	-5	
ITALY				
Abetone	50 150	—	—	
Bardonecchia	40 150	—	—	
Corvara	70 100	—	—	
Corvè	35 100	—	—	
Carnè	115 300	—	—	
Corvara	70 100	—	—	
Corvè	35 100	—	—	
Livigno	80 110	—	—	
Madonna di Campiglio	100 200	—	—	
Madonna di Campiglio	100 200	—	—	
Madonna di C	50 150	—	—	
Pinet	50 150	—	—	
San Martino	60 120	—	—	
Solva	30 80	—	—	
Sestriere	70 90	—	—	
Valloire	0 100	—	—	

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RACING

Cheltenham's £2m wisely spent

By Michael Phillips Racing Correspondent

How money is spent for the benefit of the public is guaranteed to provoke endless argument. With so many different parties interested in a share of the cake, the only hope is to please some of the people some of the time. It will be interesting to see what the reactions are when Cheltenham's latest face lift is unveiled by Lord Plummer, before the start of this year's National Hunt Festival in just under a fortnight.

When it was announced that the Levy Board had agreed to loan Cheltenham £1.6m to help finance the next stage of its redevelopment, which has just cost £1,965,000, there was criticism that the money could be better spent elsewhere. However, when the critics see what has been achieved in the last 11 months I believe that they will concede that the money has been used to good effect.

The redevelopment has entailed a new parade ring and weighing room, a covered tote betting hall, a betting shop near the paddock, a new display front of the stands that will allow horses to return to the unsaddling enclosure after each race in full view of spectators, new bars and new cloakrooms.

What I particularly like is the way that the hill there has been built to create a vast amphitheatre. This will enable many more people to get a better view of the action and the unsaddling enclosure than hitherto and

also create an excellent atmosphere. Miles Gosling, Cheltenham's chairman, is convinced that the public will approve of the new area behind the stand which has been increased substantially to provide better circulation and he is also sure that the inclusion of the winners' enclosure in one end of the parade ring will also go down well.

I am also convinced that the public will like seeing a glimpse of their heroes as they walk back after the race in front of the stands. Hitherto, the victors and the vanquished have had to trek back between the course and the car park out of sight from one and all.

In spite of the considerable cost of the improvements, the price of admission for the three-day Festival remains unchanged from last year, with club badges at £15 and a three-day badge available up to next weekend for £20.

The meeting scheduled for Lingfield Park today was abandoned yesterday because the heavy rain had left the course waterlogged. Leaving Ludlow behind the stage.

Last year Martin Pipe caused one of the sensations of the season when he trained Baron Blakeney to win the Triumph Hurdle at Cheltenham. Baron Blakeney, a grey, beat the hot favourite, Broadsword. Now Pipe, who trains near Wellington in Somerset, is beginning to entertain hopes of

winning the same race at Cheltenham with Cornish Granite, who runs in the first division of the Cordevale Novices Hurdle this afternoon. Cornish Granite began his jumping career well enough at Wincanton a week ago when his victory clearly did not take him by surprise as he was backed down to 6-1 from 10-1 before-hand.

To stand any chance of following in Baron Blakeney's footsteps at Cheltenham, Cornish Granite must first deal with Peter Anthony and Jupiter Express today. Peter Anthony has already won over today's course and distance, while Jupiter Express performed with notable promise in the same race, considering that it was his first venture on a racecourse. With John Edwards' stable currently on a crest, expect Jupiter Express to take advantage of the 10th he receives from the other two.

Now that the majority of Tim Forster's horses have shrugged off the after effects of the virus, which played such havoc with the stable's plans, he should be surprised if Very Light wins the Forbra Cup Cup. At the expense of Lewis Homes and Osprey.

Most of Forster's horses have needed a race since the stable swang back into action 12 months, so there is ground for believing that Very Light will have improved since he ran so well to Easter but is largely behind Fort Fox at Huntingdon.

Bob Champion and Aldanti will be reunited on Saturday for the first time on a racecourse since their memorable triumph in the Sun Grand National 11 months ago. Aldanti was confirmed this morning by his trainer, Josh Gifford, as a definite starter for the £14,000 added Gifford Handicap. Gifford said: "Aldanti is very well and will be ridden by Bob on Saturday. He did not ride the horse at Ascot because of the weight and I put Richard Kew on it."

Broadsword has been backed with Ladbrokes from 100-30 to 11-4 for the Champion Hurdle and is now joint-favourite with Daring. Other leading prices: 7-2 Ekbalco, 8-1 Heighlin. The Michael Dickinson-trained Broadsword has been cut from 100-30 to 11-4 favourite with Corals for Saturday's Greenall Whitley Handicap. Broadsword has been backed with Ladbrokes from 100-30 to 11-4 for the Champion Hurdle and is now joint-favourite with Daring. Other leading prices: 7-2 Ekbalco, 8-1 Heighlin. The Michael Dickinson-trained Broadsword has been cut from 100-30 to 11-4 favourite with Corals for Saturday's Greenall Whitley Handicap. Broadsword has been backed with Ladbrokes from 100-30 to 11-4 for the Champion Hurdle and is now joint-favourite with Daring. Other leading prices: 7-2 Ekbalco, 8-1 Heighlin. The Michael Dickinson-trained Broadsword has been cut from 100-30 to 11-4 favourite with Corals for Saturday's Greenall Whitley Handicap.

Today's Lingfield Park meeting was cancelled because the course was waterlogged, bringing the number of National Hunt fixtures lost this season to 81.

Levy decision
page 2

Rodman enjoys himself on way to Festival

Fred Winter landed his fifth winner of the season when Rodman, a 5-4 on favourite, had confidence-boosting victory in the Sidbury Handicap steeplechase. Rodman, who has been in problems with his jumping, but gave a fine exhibition yesterday and never put a foot wrong.

Winter said: "I know it is a bad race, but he couldn't have won any easier. It was just what the horse wanted, and he will now go to Cheltenham, where he has a chance of three engagements." Rodman was watched by his American-based owner, Mrs Joan Ceballos, who will make a return trip to England when the horse runs at Cheltenham.

The gambler of the race was on Prince of Pleasure, backed from 7-1 to 4-1, but he showed reluctance to struggle under the final two fences when under pressure from Peter Scudamore, and finished third.

Three other Cheltenham contenders were successful at Wetherby. Saint Jonathon, who ran in the Derby, and Guinness, showed he has great potential over hurdles when landing his first success at the winter fixture in the first division of the Crowthorne Novices Hurdle. He beat Perilous by a runaway 10 lengths.

Saint Jonathon will now run in either the Waterford Crystal Supreme Novices Hurdle at the Festival or the Pauzama Cigar Hurdle final at Chepstow on March 13. The winner, who started at 5-2 on, was always going easily in the hands of John O'Neill. He cruised to the front twice out, and then made a mistake at the last, won impressively.

The Drunken Duck earned a place in the Foxhunters at



Steel Trader (right) leads Lilac Lady on his way to a Worcester win

Cheltenham with a battling four-length victory over Kilmarnock in the Arnold G. Wilson Lad Stakes. Rodman, who has been in problems with his jumping, but gave a fine exhibition yesterday and never put a foot wrong.

Winter said: "I know it is a bad race, but he couldn't have won any easier. It was just what the horse wanted, and he will now go to Cheltenham, where he has a chance of three engagements." Rodman was watched by his American-based owner, Mrs Joan Ceballos, who will make a return trip to England when the horse runs at Cheltenham.

The gambler of the race was on Prince of Pleasure, backed from 7-1 to 4-1, but he showed reluctance to struggle under the final two fences when under pressure from Peter Scudamore, and finished third.

Ludlow

1.45 BORDER OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Selling handicap: £591; 2m) (10 runners)

- | | | | |
|----|------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 0000 | CLASSIC TALENT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | Michelle Manning |
| 2 | 0000 | COLD BLOOD (J Baker) 8-11-0 | D. Hovell |
| 3 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 4 | 0000 | GAMBLING (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 5 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 6 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 7 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 8 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 9 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |
| 10 | 0000 | ROCHE GRANGE (J Baker) 8-11-0 | W. Hovell |

2.15 STOKES STAYERS' CUP HURDLE (Handicap: £1,201; 3m 1f 8yds) (20)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | SPARTAN DASH (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

2.45 BROMFIELD CHASE (6-10 novices: £768; 2m) (10)

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|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

3.15 FORTH GULP CHASE (Handicap: £1595; 3m) (19)

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|----|------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | VERY LIGHT (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

3.45 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

3.55 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

4.05 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

4.15 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

4.25 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

4.35 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

4.45 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

4.55 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

5.05 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

5.15 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

5.25 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |

5.35 (14) EAST KESWICK OPPORTUNITY CHASE (Handicap: £2,338; 2m) (10)

- | | | | |
|----|------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 2 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 3 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 4 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 5 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 6 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 7 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 8 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 9 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S. Smith-Evans |
| 10 | 0000 | PRIVATE SPIN (J Baker) 8-11-0 | S |

